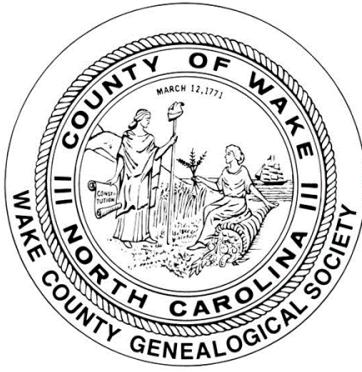




WAKE GENEALOGY WATCH

News from the Wake County Genealogical Society

Vol. 4, Issue 1

Fall 2020

Fall Schedule

Sep 22

Melungeon Research

Heather Andolina

27 Oct

Masonic Records

Jonathan Underwood

1 Dec

Future Proof Your Genealogy

Thomas MacEntee

26 Jan

Elizabeth Reid Murray Collection

Todd Johnson

[Full details at wakecogen.org](http://wakecogen.org)

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Fall Update

Wow. Another season of Covid times come and gone. As my son would say when he was little, "I haven't had a year like this before." Are you feeling that as well?

Oddly enough, our genealogy efforts haven't slowed down at all. We are all mastering Zoom and Go To Meeting and managing to have meetings, webinars and even conferences "in the ethers." I even hear some say they like it, because it eliminates traffic and allows for learning without taking such a huge chunk out of the day for transition. That is a perk, but I have to confess I miss seeing all your smiling faces and the chance to network.

We have another great lineup of speakers for our fall virtual meetings. All but one will be presented live. Please visit the [Wakecogen.org events page](http://Wakecogen.org) for full descriptions of the meetings listed on the left. The prerecorded one, Future Proof your Genealogy, is a topic we all need to address at some point. It is always good to have a plan.

Folks, our Treasurer board position is open and we are searching for a candidate. If you are interested or know someone who would be, please contact us. This volunteer position is open to members and non members. See Carla's Corner on page two for the details and a contact link direct to our president. Consider that this is an excellent opportunity for whoever should step up to fill the role. Even if you are a Wake researcher living remotely from Wake County, this is a great opportunity to connect with your family roots (*and get to know the researchers who may know where the good records are...*). This is an excellent way to give back to your society.

Be sure to get acquainted with our new WCGS Board members on page five. We welcome Sandra Cropps, George Thomas, and Heather Choplin to the board and look forward to working with them.

Are you curious about the changes at Olivia Raney Regional History Library since they closed for renovation? Check out some work in progress photos on page six.

As you can see from the left sidebar, this issue is packed with content. I am truly amazed. I keep expecting things to grind to a halt due to all the restrictions, but do I believe the genealogy community thrives on the change of schedules. Grab some coffee and a comfy chair. You've got some reading to do.



Reminder!

Wake County Genealogy Society will offer **virtual meetings through the end of 2020**. If you would like to be included in the online meetings, visit our [Join WCGS](http://JoinWCGS) page.

Carla's Corner

Hello my fellow genealogists! How are you faring? I hope this issue of WGW finds you well, happy, and up to your elbows in genealogy fun! We have a lot going on at WCGS!

First, we need volunteers! Specifically, we need a Treasurer. No need for a bookkeeping or accounting background and you don't even need to live locally! We also need transcriptionists for content for Wake Treasures, our bi-annual journal. No experience necessary! Email President@wakecogen.org for details.

Next, are you aware it is time to renew your WCGS membership?!? If you haven't already, visit wakecogen.org and log into the members area.

Be sure to take full advantage of your membership! Wake Treasures, our bi-annual journal, offers gems

issue after issue and is available only to members or for purchase on Lulu.com. Wake Genealogy Watch, our quarterly newsletter, is a goldmine of genealogy information. Members are also entitled to free queries, access to members-only presentations, posts to our Surname database, and early notification of our meetings and events. Don't miss a single drop of goodness!

Lastly, are you reading our blog? If not, you are seriously missing out! With new posts every few days, you can stay on top of events, changes, tidbits, and tons of other good items. Access and subscribe via wakecogen.org!

Stay safe my friends. Take care of one another!

Carla Stancil, [WCGS President](#)

Did You Give Up? - by Ted Bainbridge, Ph.D.

In this article and its companion on the next page, Ted shows us the importance of exhaustive, creative research and revisiting the problem from time to time. - CD

Did you give up on a research project a long time ago? If you did, consider returning to that project. New resources might be available, longstanding resources might have increased their holdings or indices, or you might now appreciate something you overlooked before.

Consider the search for the parents of William English, who was born in north-central Pennsylvania in 1803. By 1920, knowledge of William's parents had disappeared and his grandchildren didn't know how they were related to the other Englishes in the area. The local D.A.R. members hunted his parents until 1972 when they gave up, gave me their research file, and wished me good luck. After more than forty additional years of effort I also had made no progress, and gave up.

William's parents remained unknown until 2015.

While working on a different project, I noticed that the 1820 census included an age group for males born 1802 to 1804 only. A search of that census, throughout the entire state, for names like English found thirty-three families. Only four of them had people in that age group. Only William English's [sic] family was in north-central Pennsylvania. That family lived in the same township William lived in for thirty or forty years. The other three families lived more than one hundred miles away, which was a very long distance in those days. William English's father was William English, who was born about 1778. The household contained both parents and three children. A highly-regarded professional genealogist reviewed this research and determined the results to be correct.

Exploiting that formerly-unappreciated source of information solved an 95-year-old puzzle. So if you gave up on a project long ago, look for some new or improved resources that might help. Also review your sources, reading each document as carefully as though you were looking at it for the first time, to see if you overlooked something.



Reminder!

September is membership renewal month

To renew or join visit the [Join WCGS](#) page at the [WCGS website](#). See this section - How to Join/Renew - for instructions.

An Example of the Importance of Using Original Documents in Genealogical Research - by Ted Bainbridge, Ph.D.

William English was born in 1803 in north-central Pennsylvania and lived his entire life in that area. His descendants as far forward as 2013 are well documented, but his ancestry mystified local historians and genealogists. Unfounded assertions and misinterpreted documents led to incorrect conclusions. His ancestors were correctly identified only in 2015.

The Puzzle

James English and his brother John were soldiers in Pennsylvania regiments of the Continental Line during the Revolutionary War. Their sister Rebecca was a camp follower and helper. Their brother William served as a militiaman on the northwest frontier. After the war all four siblings lived in the West Branch Valley of the Susquehanna River in north-central Pennsylvania. James', John's, and Rebecca's descendants were well known but nothing was known about William's descendants.

William English 1803 and his descendants lived in that same valley but his parents were unknown. Therefore, historians and genealogists of that valley were motivated to connect him to one of the three rebel brothers - James, John, or William English. Some people claimed William 1803 was descended from James; others said he was a descendant of John; still others said he was descended from William the rebel; but none of them cited any evidence, family traditions, or line of reasoning.

A False Solution

A woman who had been a research director for the D.A.R. in the West Branch Valley told me she had been trying to find William 1803's parents for twenty-seven years, had no idea who his parents might have been, and was ready to give up. She gave me her research files and wished me good luck. Her files included a page that she had typed and which identified William 1803's parents. It claimed William English Jr., born 1803, was the son of William English Sr. and Mary Bearfield. That page included the following as proof of that relationship:

Proofs

OC Bk A, pg 28, Centre Co, Pa: 10.15.1812

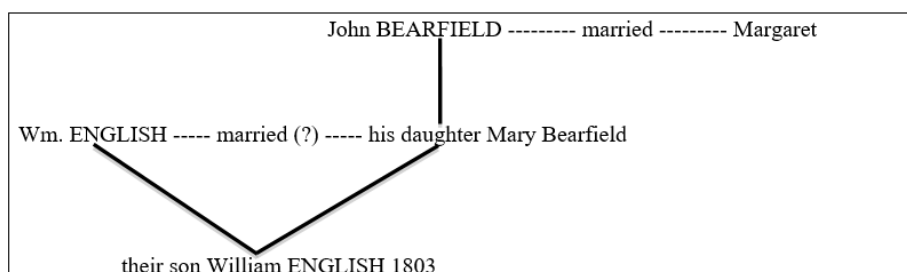
by will of JOHN BEARFIELD,

... to my dau Mary Bearfield

... to my grandson William English, natural son of my said dau. Mary Bearfield

... [John's] wife Margaret, to be supported & buried by William English

So she created this chart of William 1803's ancestry:

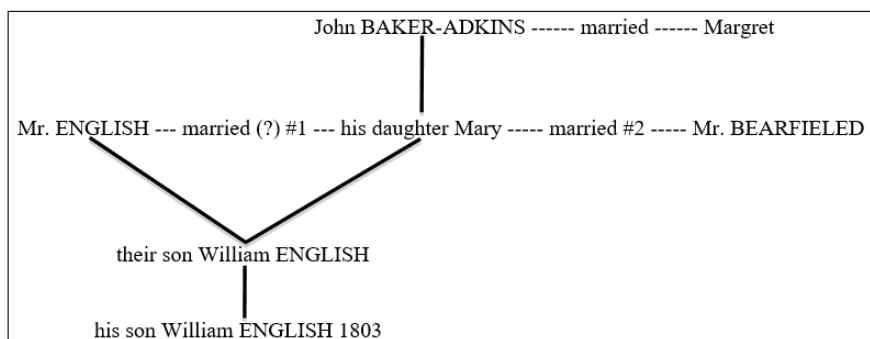


Importance of Using Original Documents... - by Ted Bainbridge, Ph.D.

Wrong. Wrong two times ... three ... four ... five ... six times. (1) The will, which contains those phrases exactly as quoted, doesn't belong to John Bearfield. It belongs to John Baker-Adkins. (2) Therefore Mary's maiden name was Baker-Adkins and her married name was Bearfield. (3) John Baker-Adkins' wife's name was written as Margret; not Margaret. (4) The will doesn't say Mr. English's first name was William. It gives no hints in that regard. (5) The will was probated in 1812 but written in 1807. At that time William 1803 was four years old, so not capable of caring for Margaret in his home. (6) Although Bearfield is a well known name in that valley at that time, it is spelled Bearfield in the will, so should be reported that way.

The Correct Solution

The 1820 census included a group of males born in 1802 through 1804 and nobody else. Only four "English" families in Pennsylvania contained people in that group. Three were in counties far away from the West Branch Valley. The fourth was in that valley, in the same county and the same township that William 1803 lived in when he was an adult. The father of a four-year-old child would be of a reasonable age to care for a widow in his home. William 1803's father would be of a reasonable age to be a son of Mary Baker-Adkins. And the name of William 1803's father as shown in the census? William English. Additional census and map studies show 1803's father to be the only adult William English in John Baker-Adkins' population group, which was isolated from all other population groups. The correct chart is:



Mr. English in that chart might or might not be William English the rebel and brother of James, John, and Rebecca. At this time, that appears to be the most likely scenario but there is no proof.

So the Point Is ...

Study the original documents instead of relying on reports about them, no matter how highly regarded the authors of those reports may be. Everybody makes mistakes. And the people who find those mistakes can and do make mistakes in their own work.

Original records often include details not reported by later writers because those details didn't seem to be relevant to those writers' purposes. Often those detailed facts or circumstantial hints point a genealogist toward correct solutions to research puzzles and away from previously reported errors of fact, context, or interpretation. Occasionally the original records show that later writers injected unjustified ideas into their material.

The first element of the Genealogical Proof Standard is, "We conduct a reasonably exhaustive search in reliable sources for all information that is or may be pertinent to the identity, relationship, event, or situation in question." The most reliable sources are the originals; not copies, transcriptions, abstracts, index entries, or reports about them.

Read the originals.

Meet the New WCGS Board Members

Say "Hello" to our new board members. Each year in the spring, half of our board positions are up for reelection. We welcome three new members to the board. They were asked to share a bit about themselves and answer my three favorite "get to know you" genealogy questions. You will recognize the questions from the Journal team profiles. - CD



**Sandra Cropps,
WCGS Volunteer Coordinator**

Sandra's roots are deep in the Triangle area. She was born in Durham County. Her father's family is from Wake County. Her mother's family hails from Pittsylvania County, Virginia.

Sandra has a Bachelor's of Science degree and a Master's degree in Library Science from North Carolina Central University. She has applied her interest in family history and skills in library science in all aspects of her life. She acted as her family's reunion coordinator and as librarian for her church, Church of God in Christ Jesus, in Durham, NC. Her professional positions include over ten years at Duke University as a Library Assistant and over thirty years as a librarian with Wake County Public Libraries including Manager of Olivia Raney Local History Library since 2012.

With her retirement from Olivia Raney on the near horizon, Sandra has graciously stepped up to devote some of her time to our Volunteer Coordinator position. If you want to jump in to a more active role in WCGS, [contact Sandra](#) to see what opportunities are available.

Sandra has also generously agreed to field the [Wake County queries](#) for researchers who contact WCGS. This is a role for which she is eminently qualified. She will be taking her family history and library science skills the good of our members and followers. This is so exciting.

Sandra says:

My genealogy superpower is that I do not give up easily.

My most exciting discovery is that I believe my great grandfather Jessie Harris (Wake County) is connected to the Revolutionary War. It has not been

proven yet by DAR.

I would love to go back in a time machine and interview my grandmother, Mary Davis Hubbard, Pittsylvania County, Va.

**George Thomas,
WCGS Program Chair**



Early in my genealogy adventure, I presented my family using a crudely built webpage allowing my family history to be seen from a more personal stance. At that time, gedcoms and other files/lists were passed about and shuffled deplete of any inklings of why beliefs were what they appeared to be. "I believe" is an important aspect of what we do and one we are sadly hesitant to publicly explore.

I have recently taken an interest in matters of land, platting, and early settlements along Rocky River as it passes Cabarrus, Stanly, Union and Anson Counties. We limit ourselves by jurisdiction where, in fact, stories told in context of land and community free us to explore beyond the confines of county-based traditions. As an extension of my hobby, I have recently taken to blogging as it exercises both thoughts and writing skills.

Whom would I most like to speak with, genealogically speaking? How about my paternal ancestor who lived ca. 1680-1730? I can get my family back to 1750 NC, and certainly a talk with this gentleman would bridge the twenty-year void. It is cool to imagine that my ancestor, at that time, would likely have been born in Virginia. Hearing those related stories would shake the ground below my feet! Most important, this person would be able to speak of things several generations deeper in time. Such a conversation would allow me to get closer to that moment when my family first crossed the great pond.

**Heather Choplin,
WCGS Director**



I have been interested in my family genealogy all my life. I was fortunate to have a great great aunt who collected the family stories and heirlooms on my mother's paternal

Meet the New WCGS Board Members - Cont'd

side and a grandmother who collected everything on my paternal side. It seems that I am now the genealogy keeper for both sides of my family and my husband's family! The treasure hunt aspect of doing genealogical research is something I truly enjoy. I've attended GenFed, IGHR, and SLIG institutes as well as NGS and FGS conferences. It's wonderful to network with people who love to talk about genealogy. I was also a member of the first ProGen study group. All of these educational opportunities have been very rewarding and I would recommend them to anyone who wants to advance their skills. I sometimes do research for pay but also enjoy bartering my services.

My genealogy superpower is finding living descendants.

My best find was my 4th great grandparents' bible that I purchased on eBay. This grandfather was my Revolutionary War Patriot with my surname! The bible was published in 1802 and bought by my family in 1805. It includes a lot of family history and several of my Rev. War Patriot's signatures.

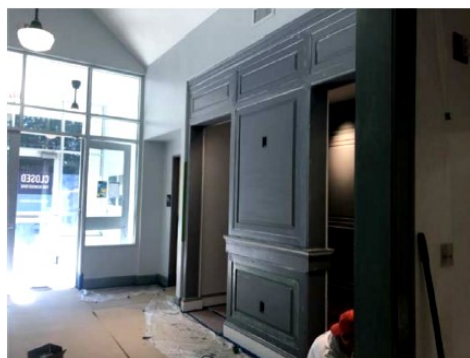
I would most like to spend time with my 7th great grandmother, a member of the Lenape tribe, sometimes called the Delaware Indians.

Olivia Raney Library Renovations Sneak Peek

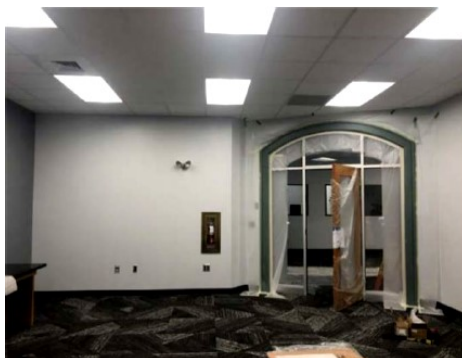
Excuse the dust! Enjoy this preview of the ongoing renovations. ORL is expected to reopen sometime late in 2020. - CD

Photos by Sandra Cropps.

New features at ORL - alcove room off foyer entrance, relocation of the service desk, more open reading room, new staff break room, new lighting in parking area and new sidewalk and ramp from parking.



Entry with new room on right



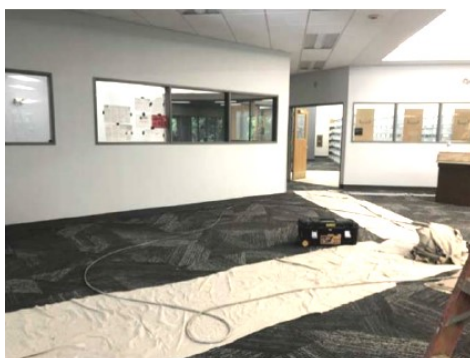
Research Room



Closed Collection Room



Reading Room



Reading Room



Relocated Service Desk

On-line Learning Opportunities- by Barbara McGeachy

The **Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI)** at North Carolina State University is open to anyone age 50 and older. The institute offers classes, special interest groups, and study trips. Classes and SIGs are being held virtually via Zoom at least through 2020. Genealogy and history classes (and many other topics) are offered in the fall 2020 semester.

Specifically for genealogy, I am teaching a 6-week class starting October 27. **Genealogy: Starting with the Basics** is a beginning class held for 90 minutes each week.

Additional Fall 2020 OLLI classes of interest to genealogists include:

Women of Color in the Suffrage Movement (3 week class)

Robert E. Lee's Civil War (6 week class)

Heroes & Leaders: The Story of North Carolina's Buffalo Soldiers (90-minute lecture)

The Black Loyalists (90-minute lecture)

Surviving the Holocaust: A Son Tells His Parents' Stories (90-minute lecture)

The exciting news about online classes is that we are not limited to the classroom size. Normally, I teach a maximum of 24 students but now I can teach up to 100. Also, students can be located anywhere in the world! OLLI charges an annual fee of \$50 and there is also a charge for each class (\$55 for a 6-week class). All instructors are volunteers.

I also lead two genealogy special interest groups which are free to OLLI members. **The Family History Group** meets the 2nd Friday of each month from 10:30 am to noon. We are all researching our own families and writing their life stories. I arrange for a speaker or a discussion topic. About 100 people are on the mailing list but only about 20 to 25 people usually attend a meeting. We are meeting virtually on Zoom at least through 2020. Topics planned through 2020 include:

Advanced Searching on Ancestry

Sharing our Research

Ship Manifests

Cemetery Research and Find-a-Grave (repeat of a Wake County Genealogical Society presentation)

The second OLLI SIG is a **genealogy writing group** that is full with a waiting list. We review each other's work with constructive criticism. We are all writing about our ancestors, and we follow the Genealogical Proof Standard.

The OLLI catalog and enrollment information is here: <https://mckimmoncenter.ncsu.edu/olli/catalogs/>

As a compliment to OLLI, I highly recommend the technology and genealogy classes taught by **Raleigh Senior Tech Ed** at <https://www.raleighseniorteched.org/>. Technology skills are essential for today's genealogist! Their classes are step-by-step, hands-on whereas the OLLI classes are lectures with some discussion. As with OLLI, all instructors at Raleigh Senior Tech Ed are volunteers. Their fees are very reasonable.

I hope you will explore these on-line opportunities!

Barbara McGeachy is WCGS Recording Secretary and walking resource wizard extraordinaire! Thank you Barbara, for bringing these great groups to our attention.

The OLLI classes, the OLLI SIGs and the genealogy offerings from Senior Tech Ed are wonderful learning opportunities for our members and followers.

I have just received the [Fall 2020 Schedule for Senior Tech Ed](#) and you will definitely want to check it out. Three of our very own WCGS members will be teaching this year - Jen Gunther, Sue Olmstead, and Cini Gage. The genealogy offerings this fall include: Working with Ancestry.com, Basic Genealogy Concepts, Organization, and Newspaper Research Skills. Check them out! - CD

Advanced Newspaper Research Skills - by Cynthia Gage

You are probably thinking that you already do this. You find the obituaries. You visit websites and search for your ancestor's name in newspapers from the right locations and time periods to get all the little tidbits of their lives: marriages, church activity, visiting relatives, school reports, sporting reports, accidents, maybe even birth announcements. All of these are wonderful stories to add to your findings, but there is more to do to make newspapers a part of your research toolbox. Here are three examples to help explain this concept.

This article from July 1920 is one of many I found when doing a global search for my grandmother, Gertrude Kahler, on a newspaper website. Here she is visiting her brother in Reinbeck, Iowa, but more interestingly the

Miss Gertrude Kahler and Miss Bailey, of Chicago, are visiting this week at the Dr. Kahler home. Miss Kahler graduated from St. Luke's hospital as a nurse this spring and since has been working in Chicago.

newspaper reports she was a nursing graduate from St. Luke's Hospital in Chicago! I knew that she had been a nurse before she got married, and here is the name of her school. If you are maximizing your newspaper research you should be thinking – yearbooks, photos, coursework, graduation date, employment – what other records are available to tell me something about her experiences there? I performed a Google search and found several hits for St. Luke's in Chicago. Wikipedia explained that St. Luke's was a teaching hospital which merged with Rush University in the 1950's. Another hit was a list of archived records including a list of class composite photos. This list included the 1920 graduating class, and even though the photo was not online, the 1920 class list included my grandmother. I was able to email the archive and they scanned the photo and sent it to me! Still on the hunt for yearbooks, I searched Hathitrust and Archive.org. On the latter I found the 1919 St. Luke's Hospital School of Nursing yearbook, "The Voyageur", with this cute item in the "Class Will". There were composite photos of the junior class, but they were unlabeled, and some students were obstructed. I could not find the 1920 yearbook.

(8) To Luella Bailey and Gertrude Kahler, we do hereby bequeath Edith Schlageter's hymn, soap-basket and tub, the aforesaid hymn being "Onward Christian Soldiers," to be sung in seven keys during the bath, said privilege to be relinquished only when some younger nurse may be taught to sing and bathe at the same time.

Eventually I took a trip to Chicago to visit the archives at Rush University. Although they did not have a copy of the yearbook, there was lots to discover. To be a nursing student a woman had to be single, between twenty and thirty, and have letters attesting to her character and her health including a statement from her dentist that her teeth were in good condition! The program was year-round, took three years and was tuition free. The first three months were preparatory and the students provided their own blue dresses with white aprons during that time. After successfully completing this term, they were accepted as nursing pupils and received uniforms from the school. Gertrude started her training in 1917, probably as a result of the US entry into World War 1. Nurses were needed in the Red Cross to provide services to the military troops, since nurses were not a part of the military at that time. Then as a result of the prolonged trench warfare across France, Gertrude's school, St. Luke's, began requiring French lessons for its students. By the time Gertrude completed her three years of coursework, the war was over. The Rush Archives also had alumnae newsletters from the nursing school. I was able to trace Gertrude's life after graduation through the newsletters' notices. She worked as a "private duty" nurse at St. Luke's Hospital until her marriage in 1925 – all reported in the newsletter. In early 1927 there was a notice about the birth of my father, and in 1937 her death was reported. All of this information and the photos were found as a result of one sentence in a newspaper article.

The second example can be considered the obverse. My Revolutionary War ancestor, Solomon Ingham, provided a statement about his service as part of his pension application. In this statement he reported: "On the first day of July 1775 I enlisted into a company of infantry...sometime after my enlistment our company

Advanced Newspaper - Cont'd

marched for Boston on our way very soon after leaving Prospect orders came to us to go to New London where we went and were employed in fortifying and keeping guard. While here we burned a great quantity of Teas which had been brought out of the stores and burned in the streets.” As you read this were you thinking about newspapers? I was! I know that papers from this time period were primarily reporting political topics – not the BMD articles that we primarily focus on. But the tea burning would have been a political event, so there is the chance an article exists, if I can find newspapers that still survive from this time period and locale.

The first step is to search the US Newspaper Directory on the Chronicling America website. This directory contains information about the names of papers and the repositories which hold copies of said newspapers. To search for existing papers, select the newspaper directory page (on the right side of the CA home page), and select the state, county and city of interest. Be sure to narrow the search to a useful timeframe. Note that the results will not indicate if a paper has been digitized, but instead lists the repositories which provide the content which may be digitized by other organizations.

The screenshot shows the Chronicling America website search interface. At the top, there is a logo for the National Endowment for the Humanities and the text "CHRONICLING AMERICA Historic American Newspapers". Below this is a search bar with the text "Search America's historic newspaper pages from 1789-1963 or use the U.S. Newspaper Directory to find information about American newspapers published between 1690-present. Chronicling America is sponsored jointly by the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Library of Congress. Learn more >". The search bar has tabs for "Search Pages", "Advanced Search", and "All Digitized Newspapers 1789-1963". The "US Newspaper Directory, 1690-Present" tab is selected. The search bar contains the text "All states" with a dropdown arrow, followed by "from 1789" and "to 1963" with dropdown arrows, and a text input field "enter one or more search words" with a "GO" button. Below the search bar, it says "Pages Available: 14,949,638". There are links for "Print", "Subscribe", "Share/Save", and "Give Feedback". The main section is titled "Search U.S. Newspaper Directory, 1690-Present" and contains the text "This directory of newspapers published in the United States since 1690 can help identify what titles exist for a specific place and time, and how to access them. Use the options below to select a particular place and time, using keywords to locate specific titles. Titles currently listed: 155,290." Below this is a section "Browse the Directory by newspaper title:" with a row of buttons for letters A through Z, 0 through 9, and a "GO" button. Below that is a section "Select where the newspaper was published:" with three dropdown menus: "Connecticut", "New London", and "New London". Below that is a section "Select when the newspaper was published:" with "from 1770" and "to 1780" dropdown menus.

My search yielded one paper: The Connecticut Gazette, a weekly published from 1773 to 1787 in New London, Connecticut. At the bottom of the paper's description page is an option to "View Complete Holdings". I found that while a local university held some issues of the paper, they did not have the timeframe of my interest. However with an upcoming trip to Chicago, I saw that the Newberry Library has issues from Dec 17, 1773 to May 4, 1787 on microfilm. I was unable to find digitized copies of the paper, so when in Chicago I visited the library and browsed through the microfilm roll covering the months of July and August. As typical for that time period, each issue was only four pages and was published once a week. Within a few minutes I discovered the New London article published on August 25, 1775. Although my ancestor was not mentioned, the story recounted that Roger Gibson and John Friend had purchased a quantity of tea in breach of the 3rd Article of the Continental Association. They were found guilty, repented for their misconduct and consented to "have said tea delivered up and to be disposed of ... said committee ordered said tea... to be publicly burned; which was accordingly done. The troops that were here stationed, paraded and attended upon the occasion, with a great number of spectators, while that

HOLDING: Newberry Libr, Chicago, IL

[View more titles from this institution](#)

Available as: Microfilm Service Copy

Dates:

• <1773:12:17-1787:5:4>

Last updated: 10/1999

Advanced Newspaper - cont'd

noxious and obnoxious herb was consuming, the music (drums, fifes, and French horn) was playing and at the conclusion three huzzas were given. The whole conducted with due order and decorum, and to the general satisfaction of all well wishers to their country.”

My final example starts with a family story. My father lost both his parents before he turned 18. His mother died in a car accident, an event I have used in one of my previous articles on newspaper research. His father, Harold Ingham, died of a heart attack while out of town during one of his sales trips to Amarillo, Texas. The story of his death was always recounted to me and my siblings in this way. He had been invited to a party. He approached the house and knocked on the door. When the hostess greeted him with a handshake, his grip suddenly tightened and he fell dead from a heart attack.

A few years ago I started a search to find a newspaper article which would document this event. I knew I was looking for an Amarillo paper for late June, 1944. When looking for an article, my first choice is to find a digitized version if it exists. I do this by searching various newspaper sites. I do not perform a global search with a specific name as this can give me possibly hundreds of useless results, rather I review their state and city holdings to find appropriate papers. If they have papers in the timeframe of interest, I can then perform a search through the specific paper. The databases I check include these primary ones: Chronicling America, Newspaper.com, NewspaperArchive.com, Genealogy Bank, the Ancestor Hunt, and Find My Past. This last site had Amarillo papers, and I was able to find this article in the June 22, 1944 issue of the Amarillo Daily News. The story it tells is much sadder than what my father told us. Perhaps he embellished the story for us to make it less alarming, or - as I choose to believe - the story he told was the one that had been told to him. As a teenager who had just become an orphan, perhaps my father was told this story in order to feel that at the time of his death his father was happy (attending a party) and not alone.

Having newspapers in your research toolbox means more than just performing name searches online. Read the articles not just for your ancestor's stories but also for hints to other records and documents. And conversely, let records and documents you already have point you to possible newspaper articles. Don't forget that those oral histories you have heard could also have been reported in papers. Global name searches on the larger multi-state newspaper websites can easily produce too many results to handle. Target your hunt by reviewing their state and city holdings for papers that can help you. Then perform your search on those specific papers. If the papers you want are not digitized, keep digging. Locate the repositories that have them and visit, or - as I have done in the past - request a library loan of the microfilm. You'll have to browse through the papers, but you will quickly learn which section has the types of articles you are searching for, and by scanning through all the sections, you can discover other local and national events which impacted their lives. Using newspapers in these more thoughtful approaches will strengthen your research toolbox and lead to a fuller story about your ancestors and their lives.



Search Tip

Enjoy this handy tip offered by [Rick Womack at the Ancestor Hunt Blog](#).

Find new titles at Newspapers.com <https://www.newspapers.com/papers/?sort=new#>

To find updated titles use <https://www.newspapers.com/papers/?sort=updated#>

Genealogy Books donated to Richard H. Thornton Library

July 2020 - **Allen Dew** received notification about a private library in Delaware that was being shut down. He asked what was going to happen to the hundreds of books and was told they would be discarded unless someone wanted them. He asked if he could have the books, and the private party agreed to send them to him. About a dozen boxes of books were mailed by USPS to Allen. One of the boxes of books, holding about 55 books, disappeared within the USPS system and has never been found.

All of the books had been disassembled by cutting off the spine. So, in order to be useful again, the books would need to be rebound. Allen negotiated with a professional rebinding company and got a reduced price since the intent was to donate the books to the Richard H. Thornton Library. Just as we were ready to start the rebinding process, the COVID-19 health crisis hit. The bindery was closed down for a couple of months. When they opened to receive the books, it took over a month to rebind over 350 books since there was a reduced staff working shorter hours. The finished product is beautiful and looks fantastic. Each book was bound in a hard cover case binding which conforms to recognized library standards.

The average cost of each book originally was about \$25.00. For the 350+ books, that would have cost over \$8700.00 for all these books. So, now the Richard H. Thornton library history room will have over 350 more books at very little cost. These books are no longer in print and cannot be purchased anywhere. The subject matter in the books covers historical records for dozens of counties surrounding Granville County in North Carolina, Virginia and South Carolina. Genealogy and history researchers may now search for their ancestors in these books, which are not available in other libraries nor on the Internet.

Allen P. Dew and the Granville County Genealogical Society are proud to present these invaluable research books to the Richard H. Thornton Library.

Email: AllenDew44@gmail.com

The books are in the process of being catalogued and titles are not yet available. Email Allen or contact the [Richard H. Thornton Library](#) for detail with the understanding that this will be a slow process due to Covid-19 restrictions. - CD

DNA Download: From Newbie to DNA master one video at a time

DNA for genealogy is a big topic and there are no shortcuts on the learning curve, but there is so much DNA education at our fingertips right now. With so many great genetic genealogy webinars available on line, why not sharpen your skill set? (Bonus - All but two of these are free!) - CD

Beginner

You Can Do DNA, presenters - Christi Lynn Jacobsen, Dana Leeds, Diahan Southard. [Watch video](#)
New to DNA? Start here. This covers test types, test companies, testing strategies, best explanation of ethnicity estimates ever, and basic concepts including Leeds Color Matching in a very beginner friendly format.

What Exactly is a Centimorgan? An Introduction to the Science of DNA Testing, presenter - Ran Snir. [Watch video](#)
This is an overview of the science and terms you will encounter regularly in the study of genetic genealogy. CentiMorgan, SNP, Segment, etc.

DNA is Dynamite - How to Ignite your Ancestral Research, presenter Michelle Leonard. [Watch video](#)

This is an overview of Y and Mito and good coverage of using Auto and X. It uses examples from several testing companies. Good overview of evaluating match trees and shared matches.

DNA the Glue That Holds Families Together, presenter - Diahan Southard. [Watch video](#)
Diahan tells the story of the discovery of her Mom's bio family. The work flow up the tree to a common ancestor and back down are well covered here. The process is the same for linking to your DNA matches, adopted or not.

Getting started with DNA, presenter - Debbie Kennett. [Watch video](#)
This video covers intro to Y, and Mitochondrial, with emphasis on Autosomal. It highlights the useful new "predictive tree" tools at the major companies.

Intermediate - Advanced

Adoption and Unknown Parentage (\$), presenter

DNA Download: Videos - cont'd

- Michelle Leonard. [Watch video](#)

I am working on my 3rd viewing of this webinar. It is not to be missed. The workflow is basically the same whether you are working an adoptee, NPE, or DNA match with little to no tree. It covers match organization, age considerations, endogamy, segment data, contacting close family. There is a fee (\$9/month or \$45/year). This is very worth the fee.

DNA For Your Family Knot, presenter - Jennifer Patterson Dondero. [Watch video](#)

Do you sometimes get confusing results with your DNA matches? Do your family lines cross in ways you don't expect? This video covers pedigree collapse and endogamy.

DNA Painter, presenter - Jonny Perl. [Watch video](#)

If you have your DNA at sites that share segment data and provide chromosome browsers, you can take advantage of this powerful segment mapping tool.

WATO, presenter - Jonny Perl. [Watch video](#)

Introduction and explanation of the What Are the Odds Tool at dnapiainter.com. Use this tool to figure out where a mystery match fits into a tree. It includes a live demo of the tool.

Connecting the dots - Intro to Auto Clusters, presenter - Paul Woodbury. [Watch video](#)

This is a good introduction to genetic networks and the new Auto Cluster tool at My Heritage. This is a good first stop for working with any cluster tool.

3 Genealogy DNA Case Studies and How I Solved Them (\$), presenter - Roberta Estes. [Watch video](#)

There is no substitute for seeing the process in action. Use autosomal, Y and mitochondrial DNA to solve 3 genealogy puzzles. There is a fee (\$9/month or \$45/year). This is very worth the fee.

Autosomal DNA - a step-by-step approach to analysing your atDNA matches, presenter - Maurice Gleeson. [Watch video](#)

This is an older video but presents solid technique. The DNA SIG spent the summer of 2018 learning and practicing Maurice's techniques. It has served us well.

*\$ - if you decide to spring for a Legacy Webinar Subscription, check out the **Tech Zone** short videos and the whole **Foundations in DNA** series by Blaine Bettinger. - CD*

NCGS Seeking Bible Record Contributions

If you are like me, you have at least one old family bible that belonged to your ancestors. You revere it and cherish it, but wonder how to keep it safe for the long term and feel maybe a little guilty that other descendants of the ancestor within can't have access to the information and marvel at the facts and the archaic (maybe illegible) handwriting of their ancestor. This may be a solution to all those problems. - CD

The North Carolina Genealogy Society is gearing up to publish a second volume of their book, **Bible Records of North Carolina**. They are seeking bible records of NC origin and hope to publish in early 2021 or as soon as they have acquired enough submissions to fill the volume.

If you would like to submit, NCGS would like you to meet these criteria:

- The family named in the Bible originated in North Carolina, even if they moved on to other states

- Persons listed in the Bible are no longer living
- Records have not been published in book form elsewhere

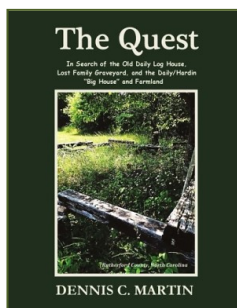
Details that should be included in your submission include:

- Provenance of the record—how did you come about this Bible? Who are the previous owners?
- A photo or photocopy of the original handwritten pages and the title page of the Bible or other evidence of the publication date of the Bible
- A little history of the family named in the Bible, eg., if the persons named in the Bible record were born (or died) in a variety of places and you have relevant information based on your own knowledge, family knowledge, or research
- Optional: Typewritten transcription of the pages, if you already have them

For more information, contact publications@ncgenealogy.org or visit their [Bible Records blog page](#).

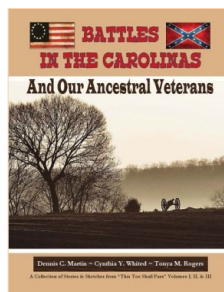
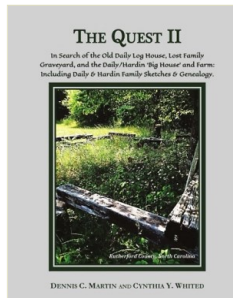
Reading Room

Dennis Martin and Cynthia Whited are a brother and sister team of contemporary genealogy researchers and accomplished writers. To date they have published eight books drawn from their twenty years of intensive research of people, places and events pertaining to all of North Carolina from the Colonial era up to the WWII era, with special coverage of the families who settled the Piedmont area and western North Carolina. These comprehensive books are sure to be a go-to source of reference for those seeking information regarding their Carolina ancestors. If you see names and locations of interest in the descriptions here contact the authors. Their contact info appears following this feature.



The Quest ~ a heart-warming story about the author's search through the pastoral fields and hills of the Carolina Piedmont in an effort to resurrect over 200 years of their family's past by seeking the three Holy Grails of their ancestry: a 19th century farm and 'Big House,' an 18th century log home, and a long lost family graveyard. 54 Pages

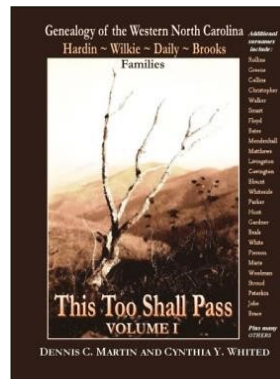
The Quest II ~ an extended version of the previous publication, *The Quest*, with the inclusion of family sketches and detailed lineages of the Benjamin Daily, John Daily and Edmund Sylvester Hardin (husband of Martha Malinda Daily) families who lived in Rutherford County, North Carolina, from the Colonial times up until the early 20th Century. 92 Pages



Battles in the Carolinas And Our Ancestral Veterans ~ an assemblage of stories and genealogical sketches found in Volumes I, II, & III of *This Too Shall Pass*. The main focus of this book is on three critical battles fought in North and South Carolina that led to our country's independence, the plight of the southern soldier during the Confederacy, and the author's

ancestral veterans who fought in both the Revolutionary and Civil War. 128 Pages

This Too Shall Pass, Volume I – Genealogy of the Western North Carolina Hardin-Wilkie-Daily-

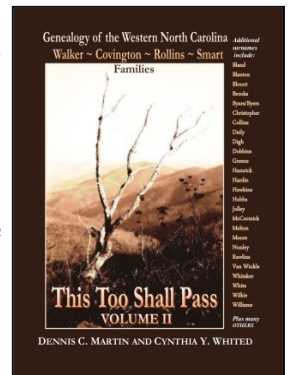


Brooks Families ~ Explores and examines, through sketches, memoirs, and photographs, the lives of the Hardin, Wilkie, Daily and Brooks families of Rutherford and Cleveland Counties, North Carolina. Volume I also traces the migration route of the settlers, the conditions they faced on the frontier, the historical events that unfolded during the Revolutionary War in Rutherford County, the author's

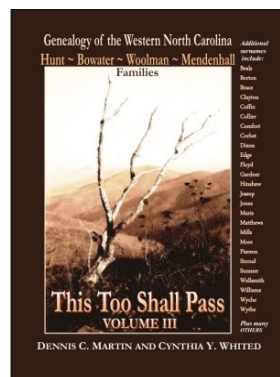
Revolutionary War veterans, and a special section about the struggles of the southern soldiers in the Civil War, making special note of the author's ancestral veterans that survived, and memorializing those that did not. 382 Pages

This Too Shall Pass, Volume II – Genealogy of the Western North Carolina Walker-Covington-Rollins-Smart Families ~ the

second book of the author's comprehensive trilogy of genealogy publications. The main focus of Volume II is an in-depth study of the Walker, Covington, Rollins, and Smart family members of Rutherford and Cleveland Counties, North Carolina, complete with revealing personal sketches, intriguing family histories, nostalgic photographs, and expansive ancestral lineages.



Volume II also includes the story of the Revolutionary War Battle at Moore's Creek Bridge, a tribute page to John Grady, "An American Patriot," as well as the histories and personal sketches of the Walker, Covington, Rollins, and Smart families from the Colonial period to the mid-1900s. 254 Pages



This Too Shall Pass, Volume III – Genealogy of the Western North Carolina Hunt-Bowater-Woolman-Mendenhall Families ~ the third book of the author's comprehensive trilogy of genealogy publications. The main focus of Volume III is about the Quaker's early birth, including sketches about George Fox, the founder and his followers in England before and after our ancestors' migration to the

Reading Room - cont'd

American Colonies, and onward into the Carolina Piedmont, where our ancestors resided during the Battle of Guilford Court House and how the Revolutionary War, and the Civil War, impacted their lives. There are also thought-provoking stories and sketches about the renowned Quaker ministers, and pillars of the early Quaker society, such as William Hunt Sr.; Nathan Hunt (the founder of Guilford College); John Woolman, preacher, journalist, and abolitionist; the famous Rev. Thomas Beals; as well as the Mendenhall family, founders of Historic Jamestown in Guilford County, North Carolina. 306 Pages.

The Joseph Smart Sr. Families of Rutherford County, North Carolina ~ in this in-depth study of the *Smart Family*, travel back in time to before the Revolutionary War and trace the life of Joseph Smart Sr. as he travels south down *The Great Wagon Road* from Pennsylvania, takes a wife in Virginia, settles land in the western North Carolina and raises a large family; then suffers the tragic and sudden death of his beloved daughter, and lives long enough to see most of his children catch the “pioneer fever” and leave Rutherford County, migrating west to the states of Tennessee, Mississippi, and Texas. Also included in this book is the modern-day, pictorial story, *Finding and Restoring the Smart~Hamrick Family Cemetery*, that chronicles the 2015 discovery of the century-lost Smart Family Cemetery and the work performed to reclaim the final resting place of Joseph Sr. and his family from a dense forest landscape. Those buried in the graveyard are catalogued with headstone/fieldstone pictures and genealogy information in the story, *Who is Buried in the Old Joseph Smart~Hamrick Family Cemetery*. From the bucolic farmlands of western North Carolina in the mid-1700s, to the mountains of Tennessee and life with the Cherokee, to the wild and war-torn Texas frontier of the mid-1800s, *The Joseph Smart Sr. Families of Rutherford County, North Carolina*, is a comprehensive and historical telling of the pioneering “Smart Families,” their wanderlust, their fascinating lives, and their remarkable migration throughout the country. 162 Pages.

The Smart Family Pioneers ~ is an in-depth and sweeping study of the *Smart Family* frontier settlers who through their own unique courage and curiosity became trailblazers and frontiersmen and women that left the security of their homes to explore the outermost and unknown hinterlands of our young country and to seek their own “Manifest Destiny.” The authors begin their examination of this family trait for wanderlust by tracing the life of the patriarch Joseph Smart Sr. in the 1760s as he travels south down *The Great Wagon Road* from

Pennsylvania, takes a wife in Virginia, settles land in western North Carolina, and lives long enough to see most of his children catch the same “pioneer fever” that he had as a youth and leave Rutherford County, North Carolina, to migrate west to the states of Tennessee, Indiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Oklahoma and Texas.

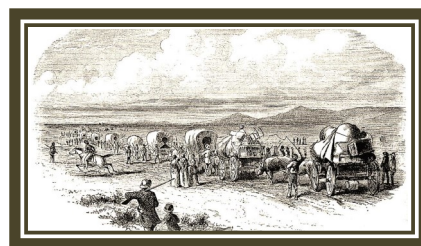
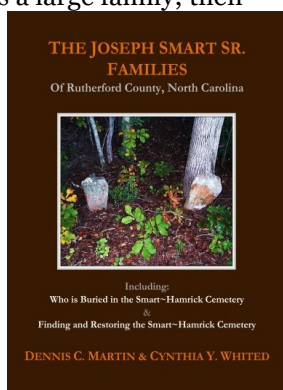
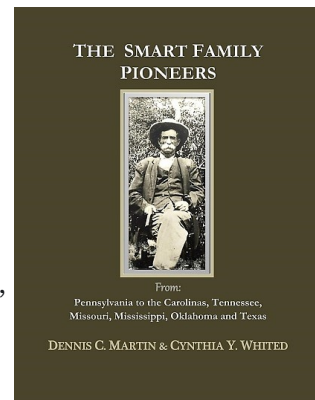
The authors explore the lives of Joseph’s pioneering children and grandchildren through historical documents, personal sketches, and nostalgic photographs, all of which reveal their bravery and what stern stuff these early frontiersmen and women were made of. Many fascinating stories are presented in this book, such as intriguing accounts of intermarriage with the Cherokee Indians, incredible sagas of hardship and sacrifice, heartbreaking details of gruesome accidental deaths, and heinous tales of cruel hangings and cold-blooded murder.

From the pastoral farmlands of western North Carolina in the mid-1700s, to the mountains of Tennessee and life with the Cherokee, to the wild and war-torn Texas plains of the mid-1800s, *The Smart Family Pioneers* is a comprehensive and historical telling of the path finding “Smart Families,” their brave explorations, fascinating lives, and their extraordinary westward migration throughout early America. 140 Pages.

These eight books by the authors represent over two decades of detailed and expansive research work; and they are sure to be the main source of reference for many years to come for those seeking information about their Carolina ancestors. The authors trust that you will find all of their work educational, thought-provoking, a bit nostalgic, and enjoyable to read.

These books are available for purchase at Amazon, or at a discounted price from the authors.

To order directly contact Dennis Martin at:
dennismartin67@comcast.net



Fall 2020 Events Calendar

Sep 2

Federation of Genealogical Societies Conference (Virtual). Live and On-Demand content. Multiple speakers, Multiple Topics. [Details](#)

Sep 22

WCGS Meeting: Infamous Characters, Notorious Villains: History of the Melungeon People. Speaker: Heather Andolina. 6:30pm. On-Line Virtual Meeting. [Details](#)

Oct 14 - 17

Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society: 2020 Annual Conference (Virtual). Multiple speakers, Multiple Topics. [Details](#)

Oct 27

WCGS Meeting: Using Masonic Records in Your Research. Speaker: Jonathan Underwood. 6:30pm. On-Line Virtual Meeting. [Details](#)

Nov 7

NCGS 2020 Member Appreciation Day (Virtual): Featured Speaker - Judy Russell. Free to NCGS registered members. [Details](#)

Dec 1

WCGS Meeting: After You are Gone; Future Proofing Your Genealogical Research. Speaker: Thomas MacEntee. 6:30pm. On-Line Virtual Meeting. [Details](#)

Jan 26

WCGS Meeting: Elizabeth Reid Murray Collection. Speaker: Todd Johnson. 6:30pm. Cameron Village Regional Library (check webpage for confirmation on In Person status of this meeting closer to date). [Details](#)

*WCGS Virtual Presentations made possible with assistance from North Carolina Genealogical Society.

WCGS is Seeking Journal Volunteers - Work From Home

The **Wake Treasures Journal** would not happen without the dedicated volunteers who help to transcribe records for us. Are you interested in volunteering to help make Wake Treasures a reality, but prefer working at your own pace in your own time? We can accommodate you! You don't even have to be in Wake County. Much of the material to be transcribed can be accessed, transcribed and uploaded remotely. You can transcribe at your leisure at home. Contact editor, [Donna Shackle](#), if you would like to volunteer from home.

Online Learning Opportunities

Use this link to keep up with the great online webinar offerings



Check our [webpage](#), detail links, and/or [Facebook page](#) for late additions, schedule changes and updates to the WCGS calendar between issues. This Calendar is accurate as of **Aug. 18, 2020**.

in the list that Barbara McGeachy curated for us! [Online Webinars at WCGS Blog](#).

Ongoing Workshops thru SeniorTechEd - Selected classes offered online via Zoom. [See SeniorTechEd schedule for details and fees](#).

Edgecombe Community College: Continuing Education Series/Historic Preservation Trades. Offering online and in-person Saturday classes for Fall. Watch their FB page [@HPTatECC](#) for announcements. Email for information - flemingm@edgecombe.edu.

Take advantage of free content online:

Covid restrictions have spawned a multitude of free webinars and perks from the various Genealogy websites. Take advantage of these:

Ancestry Library Edition— Temporary Remote access for Library Card Holders is reevaluated monthly due to Covid restrictions. Check at [CVRL](#) or [G&H](#) library depending on your library card.

Family History Library Webinars - [Link to upcoming webinars](#).

Conference Keeper.org - Follow the virtual page for a constantly updated list of online content. [View page](#).

Abundant Genealogy - Follow Thomas MacEntee's blog for tons more free content. [Details](#). [Get his newsletter](#).



Genealogical Societies in the surrounding area

Durham-Orange Genealogical Society: 1st Wednesday of Month, 7pm. [Details](#)

Granville County Genealogical Society: 1st Thursday of Month, 6:30pm. [Details](#)

Tar River Connections Genealogical Society: 3rd Tuesday of Month, 6:30pm. Details - TRCGS@Brasswell-Library.org

Johnston County Genealogical and History Society: 1st Saturday of February, May, August, and November, 10:30am. Details - PO Box 2373, Smithfield, NC 27577

Heritage Society of Franklin County: 3rd Thursday of Month. Details - heritagesocietync@gmail.com or PO Box 45, Louisburg, NC 27549

Triangle Jewish Genealogical Society: Meets monthly. See webpage for schedule. [Details](#)

Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society - Triangle Region Chapter - see Facebook page for details. [@aahgsnctriangle](#)



Watch Us

Website:

wakecogen.org

Blog:

wakecogen.blogspot.com

Facebook:

[wakecogen](https://www.facebook.com/wakecogen)

Twitter:

[@WakeCoGen](https://twitter.com/WakeCoGen)

Wake Gen Watch - Award Winner
NCGS Excellence in Publishing –Newsletter
2018, 2019

One Last Thing

I hope you found something useful and enjoyable in this issue. It is amazing to me that we are closing out the third year of Wake Gen Watch. It seems like just yesterday that I was scrambling to create a template and cobble together enough content to publish that very first issue. I always think that at some point there will be nothing to write about, yet there always is. Sometimes, like this time, there is seems to be too much but it is all too important to skip or wait. We have a great group of contributors and I can always count on some amazing tips or useful techniques that benefit us all.

Until the next issue, stay safe, well, sanitized and cozy.

As always, thank you for reading this far.

Your humble editor -

[Cyndi Deal](#)

Contact WCGS

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Please send all other emails to
info@wakecogen.org

Postal mail:

Wake County Genealogy Society

P. O. Box 17713

Raleigh, NC 27619-7713

Deadline for Winter 2021 issue is November 16, 2020.

Ideas? Questions? Feedback of any kind? We love to hear from you. [Drop us a line!](#)

Submissions: newsletter@wakecogen.org

Photo Note: When reading from a printed copy, please refer back to the [online edition](#), on the newsletter download page, where you can enlarge the photos for better viewing.

~parting thought~

"The hero
draws inspiration from the
virtue of his ancestors."

— Johann Wolfgang von Goethe