



DALLAS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

dallasgenealogy.org

Register Online or By Mail!



2017 SPRING SEMINAR

Thomas W. Jones

Research Methods for Family Historians

Saturday, 18 March 2017

Registration: 9:30 AM | Seminar: 10:00 AM – 4:30 PM

J. Erik Jonsson Central Library | 1515 Young Street, Dallas, TX 75201



PLEASE PRINT:

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Special Needs _____

| | By Feb. 26* | Quantity | After Feb. 26 | Quantity |
|---------------|-------------|----------|---------------|----------|
| Member | \$50 | _____ | \$60 | _____ |
| Non-Member | \$60 | _____ | \$70 | _____ |
| Boxed Lunch** | \$12 | _____ | \$12 | _____ |

** Indicate _____ Roast Beef Sandwich _____ Turkey Sandwich _____ Vegetarian Sandwich
Lunch Choice _____ Tuna Salad Croissant _____ Grilled Chicken Signature Green Salad

Join DGS Now & Register at Member Rate!

| | | | | | |
|---------------------|------|-------|---------------------|-------|-------|
| One year Individual | \$35 | _____ | Life - under age 65 | \$700 | _____ |
| One year Household | \$40 | _____ | Life - 65 or older | \$500 | _____ |

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: _____ (If lunch selected, please include its price in total)

* Must be registered online or by mail-in form postmarked by February 26, 2017 to qualify for lower rate.

Mail registration form & check, payable to *Dallas Genealogical Society*, to:
DGS 2017 Spring Seminar, P.O. Box 12446, Dallas, Texas 75225-0446

Refund Policy: Full refund, less \$10.00 handling fee, if requested by February 26, 2017; no refund after February 26, but syllabus will be provided.

TOPICS

Session 1: Five Ways to Prove Who Your Ancestor Was (Some Reliable and Others Not Reliable)

Case studies will illustrate five ways—some reliable and others not—that genealogists “prove” an ancestor’s identity: using information provided by others; using a single source; following a chain of evidence; correlating evidence from multiple sources; and weighing conflicting evidence. Attendees will learn how to use the Genealogical Proof Standard (GPS) to identify their ancestors accurately.

Session 2: Can a Complex Research Problem be Solved Solely Online?

Step by step, attendees will suggest online sources and research strategies for tracing an ancestor who seems to disappear and reappear. The interactive case study will show both how such cases can be solved online and the limits of material online today.

Session 3: Solving the Mystery of the Disappearing Ancestor

Genealogists may be frustrated by not finding ancestors in the records and places where they logically expect them to be. This presentation will explain seven reasons why such ancestors seem to have disappeared, provide examples of each from actual case studies, and suggest strategies to help attendees find their elusive ancestors.

Session 4: Creating a Family History of Lasting Value

Most genealogists want to prepare family histories that future generations will cherish. Not all succeed. Many genealogies contain only “harvested” information, which our descendants will be able obtain themselves (perhaps more easily than we can today). Some of that information likely is wrong. We begin to create worthwhile and accurate family histories by collecting and sharing family stories and DNA test results—information that might soon disappear. Our research progresses from that starting point toward the goal of a printed, computerized, or online family history. If we pay attention to four factors— biography, accuracy, documentation, and explanation—our history will be irreplaceable.

Thomas W. Jones, Ph.D., CG, CGL, FASG, FUGA, FNGS

Thomas W. Jones, Ph.D., CG, CGL, FASG, FUGA, FNGS, has edited the National Genealogical Society Quarterly since 2002. He is author of *Mastering Genealogical Proof*, a popular textbook on genealogical assessment and reasoning. He has been tracing his family history since 1963. Tom is a recipient of the Association of Professional Genealogists 2011 Professional Achievement Award and its 2004 Grahame T. Smallwood Jr. Award of Merit. Retired from a thirty-year career in higher education and professor emeritus at Gallaudet University in Washington, D.C.

Tom works full time as a genealogical researcher, writer, editor, and educator. He coordinates courses at the Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburgh, the Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy, and the Institute on Genealogy and Historical Research. Tom’s research has encompassed records of every state east of the Mississippi, as well as Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Texas, England, France, Germany, Italy, Ireland, and Wales. He specializes, however, in Georgia, the Midwest, and Virginia and is most interested in solving “brick-wall” genealogical problems.

Tom writes and speaks frequently on genealogical methods with broad application across geographic areas, time periods, and levels of expertise. He is known for meaty lectures benefiting genealogists of all experience levels. Audiences typically leave his lectures understanding that genealogical research can be more challenging than they had thought, but also that it can be much more fun.