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DALLAS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
EXPLORE YOUR FAMILY HISTORY WITH US

eNews - September 2024

Join us for our Action-packed General Meeting on September 7th!

Get ready for a fun start to an exciting new DGS year! We have a fantastic lineup of speakers planned for you, starting on September 7th with a “double-header”!

At 11:00 am, after a brief business meeting, the dynamic **Christopher D. Bryant** will be with us in person, to present "Back to the Basics: A Deeper Look into Genealogical Resources." Did you know Chris's last lecture at DGS was the highest attended General Meeting of the year?



At 1:30 pm, there will be a live Zoom presentation by company founder **Greg Boyd** about using **HistoryGeo.com**. NewspaperArchives and HistoryGeo.com are the two programs that DGS has chosen as the recipients of our North Texas Giving Day funds. We have sponsored their subscriptions for the Genealogy Dept for the last few years. They are great additions to your family research tools. Greg's presentation will be able to be viewed in person from the 8th floor Genealogy department, and your Zoom link is the same as the one used for the regular meeting if you are attending virtually.

Can you take more excitement? We will also offer a third activity at the library on September 7th! **DGS volunteers will be helping all genealogy enthusiasts with their family research on the 8th floor, in the Genealogy section, from 1:00-3:00 pm.** If you are in the Metroplex area, we encourage you come down to the Dallas Public Library at 1515 Young Street, for this day of all things genealogy. Coffee and snacks will be available 10:30 am - 1:00 pm in O' Hara Hall on Floor 7.

Not to slight the important business portion of the meeting, we will be installing our Board of Directors for the 2024-2025 year. We would love to have you join us in helping DGS to continue to thrive during the coming seasons! We will also discuss changes in the Bylaws that will give us more leeway in bringing fresh faces onto the leadership team, as well as handling other transitions, to our all-volunteer staff. We hope you have put a star on your calendar, marking your participation in DGS' big day on Saturday, September 7th.

[Join The Call](#)

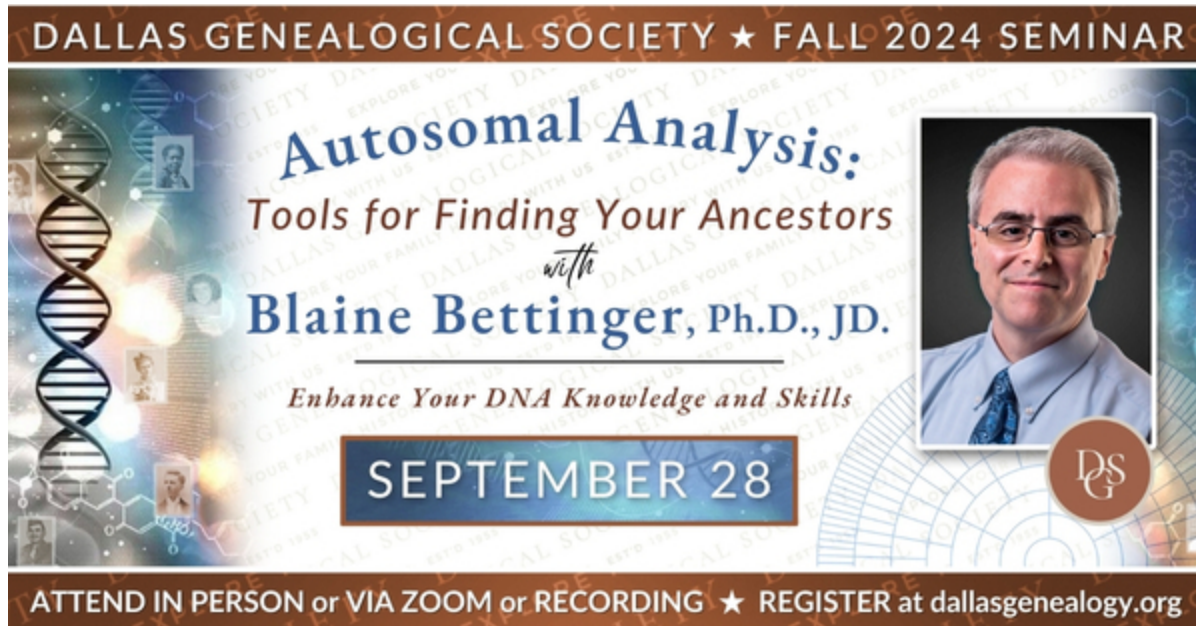
Join us for our Fall Seminar!

DALLAS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY ★ FALL 2024 SEMINAR

Autosomal Analysis:
Tools for Finding Your Ancestors
with
Blaine Bettinger, Ph.D., JD.
Enhance Your DNA Knowledge and Skills

SEPTEMBER 28

ATTEND IN PERSON or VIA ZOOM or RECORDING ★ REGISTER at dallasgenealogy.org



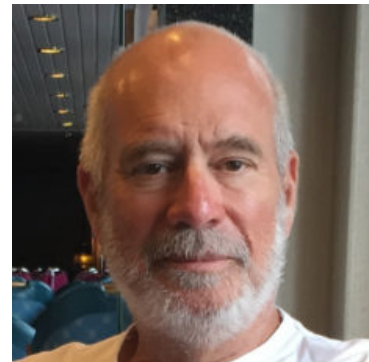
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REGISTER NOW

From the President's Desk - DGS Needs You!

The advent of virtual meetings has had a huge impact on all genealogy societies. Many societies only exist today because they adapted virtual meeting technology during the COVID pandemic. And in many ways, it has allowed societies to reach a greater number of people. Take our own society as an example:

- In 2018, our General Meetings attracted a total of 272 in-person participants.
- In 2023 our General Meetings attracted a total of 190 in-person participants. However, we had an additional 1,435 participants who attended via Zoom or watched recordings of the meetings.



While we are delighted to see our reach expand from 272 to 1,625 participants (math geeks will note that that is nearly a 500% increase!), we have not seen a corresponding increase in participation in our society leadership positions, and the organization has been finding it difficult to fill key board positions. This is the primary motivation for the bylaw changes that are being proposed by the board of directors.

We are in the process of creating a Skills & Leadership Interest survey that we can use to identify and engage those of you with the skills and interest that are needed for us to continue to thrive as an organization.

The good news about this new virtual reality is that you can participate in the operations and leadership of the society regardless of where you live. Please give strong consideration to “giving back” by becoming involved.

Interested in learning how you can become involved? Contact me at president@dallasgenealogy.org.

DGS Proposed By-Law Changes

The DGS Board of Directors recommends making several changes to our current bylaws:

- Elimination of term limits for the President.
- Elimination of the requirement of prior board service for the president.
- Clarification of circumstances for the end of a term in office.

The changes will be discussed during the General Meeting. The proposed changes will take effect immediately if approved.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Have you got a family cookbook?



DGS member JoAnn Graham does - and it's all the way from the UK! Check out her story on the delicious - and not so delicious - items involved.

[READ MORE](#)

Another hidden genealogical gem in Dallas!

Sometimes the best research locations are appointment-only facilities. DGS member Suzan Younger just visited one - the DAR library at Fair Park!

[LEARN MORE](#)



Save the Date! Support DGS on North Texas Giving Day, 19th September

Please help us provide access to HistoryGEO.com and NewspaperArchive.com to patrons of the Dallas Public Library! **Early Giving begins on Sunday September 1.**

- Visit <https://www.northtexasgivingday.org/organization/Dallas-Genealogical-Society>
- Complete your donation by **9.19.24**

[NewspaperArchive.com](https://www.newspaperarchive.com) – A subscription-based site that provides its users access to online digital images of their many exclusive collections (\$3,945/year).

[HistoryGEO.com](https://www.historygeo.com) – A family history software service for linking old maps and land records to your genealogy research (\$2,600/year).

THANK YOU!

Monthly DNA Tip - Making the most of your shared matches

Ancestry recently introduced ProTools, which allows users to compare the shared matches that they have in common with their original match list for the first time.



While other providers such as MyHeritage and FamilyTree DNA previously allowed this option, Ancestry had not. Due to the size of Ancestry's database, this can be a game-changer for solving brick walls.

A very simple example: When you have a DNA match who has no tree and a surname that you do not recognize, it can be challenging to figure out the connection. With shared matches, you might see that this person had a shared match with a known cousin of yours, at the second cousin level. Now you know exactly where to start your research for how this person might fit in your tree.

With that additional information, you can check your shared matches at the other sites, and may be able to make new discoveries there, too!

You can use the ProTools on a month-to-month subscription, which is also a bonus to the wallet! Need more info on how shared matches work? Read Ancestry's support article [here](#) or join the DGS [DNA Special Interest Group](#)!

Welcome New DGS Members!



Courtney Barnes, Tammy Garrett, Cynthia Gulley, Deadra Marsh-Foy, Susan McCollins, Jackie Sutton, Emily Talbott, Jane Templin, Tiffany Wright, and Miah Xi, who let us know their research interests include the surnames Mason, Early, Green, and Smith in Arkansas, Texas, Mississippi, New York and Georgia. Check out other member's research interests at [our Surname Registry](#).

About the Dallas Genealogical Society

- [Society Leaders](#)
- [Mission Statement](#)

- [History of the Dallas Genealogical Society](#)

This edition edited by Michelle Dwyer Cohen and Pat Hernandez



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