

# Family History Month



# Family History Month

Welcome to Family History Month 2022! We have an activity every day to encourage you to use this month to pursue, preserve, and present your family stories. The registration links for the virtual programs can be found on the bottom left of the Genealogy Center's page at [genealogycenter.org](https://www.genealogycenter.org) under "Genealogy Events."

There are a number of special events to note this year:

We are highlighting the importance of storytelling by having "Storytelling Sundays." Each Sunday we are posting a question for you to answer and post back to the Genealogy Center's Facebook page.

Family History Month (FHM) videos will highlight our staff's favorite things from the Genealogy Center collection. Look for these short takes throughout the month on our Genealogy Center Facebook page. The library's executive director, Susan Baier, will lead off on October 3.

"Wednesdays with Witcher" is returning this year. This series of thirty-minute virtual presentations will represent brief musings on important topics in the genealogy and family history space.

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VIRTUAL PROGRAM

## Facebook Brick Wall Question Day.

Saturday, October 1

Use this day to post your brick wall challenges to our Facebook page, and we will learn together as we address them throughout the month.

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VIRTUAL PROGRAM

## Florida Genealogy

Tuesday, October 4 • 2:30 pm  
Presented by Matthew Storey

Hear about successful genealogical research in the southeasternmost state in the country, a state that has a rich history of settlement from pre-colonial times to present day.

Matthew Storey is a reference archivist for the States Archives of Florida. He earned his BA from Mississippi State University and graduated from FSU with a MA in 2017. He has a deep appreciation for history and enjoys assisting others with their historical research.

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WEDNESDAYS WITH WITCHER

## The Power of Story and Why it Matters

Wednesday, October 5 • 2:30 pm  
Presented by Curt Witcher

Genealogy is all about finding our stories. Hear how what we do might be more important than we may think.

*VIRTUAL PROGRAM*

## My DNA Results Are In! What Do They Mean?

Thursday, October 6 • 6:30 pm  
Presented by Sara Allen

Start the journey to learn more about your autosomal DNA with your results from AncestryDNA, FamilyTreeDNA's Family Finder, MyHeritage, or 23andMe's DNA test. Learn the basics of each company's website and some basic interpretation of results, ethnicity, and DNA family matches.

*VIRTUAL PROGRAM*

## Best Sources and Techniques for African American Research

Saturday, October 8 • 2:00 pm  
Presented by Roberta Ridley

Roberta Ridley and members of the African American Genealogical Society of Fort Wayne and Genealogy Center staff provide tips and answer questions in an open forum.

*VIRTUAL PROGRAM*

## Vivid-Pix and Photo Reminiscence Therapy

Tuesday, October 11 • 2:30 pm  
Presented by Rick Voight

Rick Voight is a lifelong snapshotter who's been in the imaging business for a few decades. He is the CEO of Vivid-Pix, a company that invents and harnesses technologies, making it simple to relive memories. Rick and his company have partnered with the National Institute for Dementia Education in doing pioneering work with photo reminiscence therapy.

So many photographs have been passed down through the generations of our families. Currently, nearly two trillion pictures are being taken around the world every year. Hear how Vivid-Pix can assist with scanning, repairing, enhancing, and preserving photographic images. And then learn how using those images in photo reminiscence therapy can be life changing.

WEDNESDAYS WITH WITCHER

## Finding the Things We Are Not Looking For: GPS, FANs, Preponderance of the Evidence, and Researching in 4-D

Wednesday, October 12 • 2:30 pm  
Presented by Curt Witcher

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How successful researchers find so many stories about their families, including ones they are not seeking.

IN-PERSON & VIRTUAL

## Endangered Ephemera: Rescuing Evidence of Our Endeavors

Wednesday, October 12 • 7:00 pm  
Presented by Adam Barrone

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The Allen County Genealogical Society will be offering a program in the Genealogy Center's Discovery Center. Come in person to enjoy the program or register at [ACGSI.org](http://ACGSI.org) for the Zoom link.

VIRTUAL PROGRAM

## I Have a Civil War Ancestor... Now What?

Thursday, October 13 • 6:30 pm  
Presented by Brian Rhinehart

Civil War soldiers often left a rich genealogical paper trail. Many of these records are tucked away at the National Archives in Washington DC. Learn what records are available for your ancestors only at the National Archives, what records are online already, and how to access all of them. These records may unlock some of the family stories that have been forgotten over time, as well as break down a brick wall or two!

VIRTUAL PROGRAM

## Ask the Experts: Genealogy Software

Saturday, October 15 • 2:30 pm  
Presented by Cynthia Theusch &  
Elizabeth Hodges

Are you considering trying out a genealogy software, but you aren't sure where to start? If so, join senior librarians Cynthia Theusch & Elizabeth Hodges for a half hour. Ask the Experts Session all about software!

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VIRTUAL PROGRAM

## Using Maps for Genealogy Research

Tuesday, October 18 • 2:30 pm  
Presented by Phillip Sutton

Philip Sutton is a reference librarian at New York Public Library's Irma and Paul Milstein Division of United States History, Local History, and Genealogy, where he also teaches and writes about genealogy and building history research. Sutton is a visiting Assistant Professor at the Pratt Institute, where he teaches a class in genealogy and local history.

This presentation will describe how maps in the collections of The New York Public Library and elsewhere can be used in genealogical research. We'll look at fire insurance maps and atlases, military and topographical maps, county maps and atlases, and other types of map to locate records, discover where our ancestors lived, and what their lives were like.

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WEDNESDAYS WITH WITCHER

## “It's All Really Well Organized:” The Truth About What We Are Passing On

Wednesday, October 19 • 2:30 pm  
Presented by Curt Witcher

Many think the organization of their family history materials is darn near perfect. Hear some tips in passing records and stories along to younger generations that may be a little different than what you might think.

VIRTUAL PROGRAM  
**Beyond Civil and  
Church Records:  
Digging Deeper into  
Mexican Research**

Thursday, October 20 • 6:30 pm  
Presented by Lisa Medina

Using professional genealogical research methodologies, Lisa Medina provides accurate, substantiated genealogical research services and compelling family histories. As a daughter, sister, wife, and mother, she believes there is an incredible depth to the value of learning family history, and for this reason, Lisa also endeavors to bring the past to life with historical context and the narratives of our ancestors.

Catholic parish records and Mexican civil registration records are incredibly rich in genealogical information – and extend back well into the 16th century. But there are still more records to uncover in Mexican research! In this lecture, we will explore many of these other sources, from original records to indexes and published works.







## The Genealogy Network of Texas Daylong Virtual Program

Friday, October 21

Email [genealogy@acpl.info](mailto:genealogy@acpl.info) for the  
registration link.

**9:00 am**

### Deciphering Handwriting in Genealogical Records

**Presented by** Joseph B. Everett, MLS, AG,  
*Family & Local History Librarian (BYU Library)*

In this age of technology, reading handwriting is becoming a lost skill, but it is essential for success in genealogical research. It is not enough to rely on computer indexes, when they exist, to find and interpret records, as these only include a portion of the information and often contain errors. Learn about techniques and tools for improving your skills in deciphering handwritten documents. Information about developments in handwritten text recognition will also be included.

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**10:10 am**

### Improve, Expand, and Enrich your Family Tree – With Tax Records!

**Presented by**  
Doug Waggoner, *Family Historian*

**Sponsored by**  
Waco-McLennan County Library

With some simple techniques, you can use tax records to expand your knowledge of your ancestors. You will discover new relatives, differentiate between people with similar names, and break through brick walls. You will also learn far more about where and how they lived.

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**11:00 am**

### Choosing Genealogy Services & Software

**Presented by** Tony Hanson, *Family Historian*

This presentation will provide a high-level overview of the capabilities offered by 'online genealogical services', 'genetic DNA testing services' and 'family tree software providers' with the goal of helping participants make informed choices from the wide range of products and services that are currently available.

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12:25 pm

## Building and Researching Your Family Tree

**Presented by** Bill Buckner & Hannah Kubacak, *Genealogy Center, Waco-McLennan County Library*

Budding researchers will learn the basic concepts, skills, search strategies and resources needed to get started researching their family tree. Join us as we walk through the process of recording what you already know, getting organized, collecting, and evaluating the information you find. Learn to navigate online and print resources for records of 'genealogical value' – vital, cemetery, obituaries, census, immigration records and more!

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1:45 pm

## Citing Sources Without Stressing Out

**Presented by** Amy Johnson Crow, *MLS, founder & lead educator at Generations Connection, host of Generations Café*

Citing sources is one of those things in genealogy research that tends to make us kind of twitchy. We know we should be doing it and we want to do them right... so we tend to stress out about it. But there is a key to thinking about citing sources—and it won't raise our blood pressure.

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2:45 pm

## Making the Allen County Public Library Genealogy Center Your Research Assistant

**Presented by** Curt B. Witcher, *MLS, FUGA, IGSF, The Genealogy Center Manager*

This presentation will provide one with an up-close look at the resources of this national family history collection, emphasizing the many resources that are free from anywhere. Participating in this presentation will help one truly make the Genealogy Center in Fort Wayne, Indiana their research assistant.

3:45 pm

## How to Approach and Solve Brick Wall Problems with DNA

**Presented by** Sara Allen, *Senior Librarian, Allen County Public Library, Genealogy Center*

Learn steps to take to evaluate your brick wall problem, learn best DNA tests to use for different problems, and how to work with the DNA results and genealogical research to solve the problem. We will also go over several case studies that utilize these strategies.

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5:10 pm

## United States Migration Patterns: Why They Left, Where They Went, and the Stories They Left Behind

**Presented by** LeAnne McCamey, *professional genealogist, publisher, author, and owner of American Genealogical Res*

This program provides a broad overview of migration touching on the reasons to study migration and the keys to understanding migration. The four distinct migration time periods are briefly addressed in addition to the reasons people migrated and finding the documents and records they left behind during their migration. Instruction is given in the methodology of developing a migratory tracing of an individual or family.

VIRTUAL PROGRAM

## Mexican Genealogy in the Midwest

Saturday, October 22 • 2:00 pm

Presented by

Nicole Martinez-LeGrand

Nicole Martinez-LeGrand considers herself a community collaborator first and a museum professional second. Since 2016 she has been working on bolstering the Indiana Historical Society's Latino, Hispanic and Asian collections beginning with oral history interviews and genealogical research into both ethnic communities, and adding manuscripts, books, photos, and other paper-based items to a growing and rich collection. Her research into both communities were presented in two IHS exhibits in 2018 and 2019. These explore themes of international history, labor history, and U.S. immigration law. In 2021 she was awarded the Outstanding Community Leader award by La Plaza, Inc., the City of Indianapolis' oldest Hispanic and Latino serving institution. She is the co-author of IHS Press publications about Latino and Asian communities in Indiana.

Learn more about the history of Mexicans, Mexican Americans in Indiana and the Midwest through genealogical records. Nicole will show you the basics of Mexican genealogy in the United States and in Mexico. More importantly, how to interpret the lived experiences through historical context. Suitable for family researchers who are at a beginner or intermediate skill level.



VIRTUAL PROGRAM

## The Salem Witchcraft Trials of 1692: History and Sources

Tuesday, October 25 • 2:30 pm  
Presented by John Beatty

The trials and executions of the men and women charged with witchcraft at Salem, Massachusetts, in 1692 has become an iconic event in American history. Many genealogists today are descendants of one of these unfortunates or one or more of their accusers. Join our Salem Witch Trial expert, senior librarian John Beatty, for a chance to ask questions and learn more about this fascinating event.

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WEDNESDAYS WITH WITCHER

## Telling the Stories: Taking Advantage of the Boundless Opportunities around Us.

Wednesday, October 26 • 2:30 pm  
Presented by Curt Witcher

Hear how every month, and often more frequently, we have opportunities to share our stories and encourage other family members to do so as well.

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VIRTUAL PROGRAM

## “What does that say?” Deciphering Handwriting in Genealogical Documents

Thursday, October 27 • 6:30 pm  
Presented by Elizabeth Hodges

Do you find yourself staring at documents for hours at a time trying to read difficult handwriting? If so, join senior librarian Elizabeth Hodges for some tips and tricks to help you decipher handwriting in genealogical documents.

VIRTUAL PROGRAM

## After Hours with The Genealogy Center

Friday, October 28 • 6:00 pm

Presented by

The Genealogy Center Staff

Have you ever wanted to chat with a genealogist or just hang out with one after the library closes? This is your opportunity. Genealogy Center staff members will be hosting a virtual hang out session for you!

VIRTUAL MINI-PROGRAM

## Ask the Experts: Writing Your Family's Story

Saturday, October 29 • 2:30 pm

Presented by John Beatty

At some point in the research process, we all realize that we need to start writing our family's stories down, but the process of getting started can be difficult! Join senior librarian John Beatty for a half hour Ask the Experts session all about writing your family's story!

# Storytelling Sundays Questions

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Share your answers on the Genealogy Center's Facebook page!

October 2

Who is your favorite ancestor and what makes that person special?

October 9

What is the most memorable (for whatever reason) story you have heard from a family member?

October 16

When was your favorite ancestor born, and what was significant about the time period?

October 23

Where is your favorite place to do research and why?

October 30

Why are your favorite ancestors your favorites?

# FHM Videos

Sunday, October 3  
Susan Baier,  
ACPL Executive Director  
**Welcome to Family History Month**

Friday, October 7  
Curt Witcher  
**Honoring Our Families by Sharing  
Their Stories**

Monday, October 10  
Allison Singleton  
**Our Military Heritage**

Friday, October 14  
Curt Witcher  
**The New WorldCat**

Monday, October 17  
John Beatty  
**“The Great Migration” series**

Friday, October 21  
Cynthia Theusch  
**Microtext Treasures**

Monday, October 24  
Sara Allen  
**Roger Minert’s “German  
Immigrants in American Church  
Records”**

Sunday, October 3  
Elizabeth Hodges  
**PERSI (The Periodical  
Source Index)**





## Allen County Public Library

900 Library Plaza  
Fort Wayne, IN 46802

(260) 421-1225  
genealogy@acpl.info  
www.genealogycenter.org

Visit us during regular library hours for full access to our physical and digital collection. Our staff is available to assist with your family history research.

Monday-Thursday	9:00 am-9:00 pm
Friday-Saturday	9:00 am-6:00 pm
Sunday	12:00 pm-5:00 pm

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