SAN ANTONIO GENALOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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A Member Society
Chartered in 1959 as a
501 (c) (3) Non-Profit
Organization

May 2023
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A newsletter to inform members of Society Activities and Library Acquisitions

May 2023



President's Message

Dear Members and Friends:

Hope all is well with everyone. We thought you might enjoy hearing about the kindness of members Daniel & Nita Heinchon who donated a much coveted, Czur Aura Pro book/media scanner to the Society. We are delighted to have it will be available for patron use. Nita and our IT manager, Kurt Kneeland are also working on enabling us to have e-books available for use in the Library. More on that when Kurt returns from vacation next month.

Carol Brooks, SAGHS Member and one of this year's First Families of Bexar County recipients, reached an employment milestone by celebrating 25 years at her job. At the 25 year milestone, her company Capital Group donates $1,000 to a charity of the employee's choice. Carol chose SAGHS as the recipient of this $1,000 gift because our society has been helpful with her research. Thanks those of you who helped Carol and thank you Carol for thinking of us.

The Members meeting on Saturday, May 20.th will feature guest speaker, Cassandra Pete, Regent of the Ol' Shavano Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Cassandra will reveal "Todays DAR and You." Come and meet her – she is wonderful!

Come to the Library and celebrate our two new databases: Newspapers.com, Library Edition and Proquest's African American Heritage! See page 3 for more information.

The date for our Founders Day Luncheon has been set for June 17th, at Scuzzi's Italian Restaurant. Please see registration form attached for registration, menu selection and map. Larry Luckett will be our wonderful guest speaker. Join us while we honor our Founders and new First Family members and celebrate our 64th year!

Barb Froebel



Karen Herrmann
Ron Herrmann
Claudia Nelson
Shannon Newberry
Patti Singer

Submitted by Linda Monts



SAGHS is proud to recognize our newest 30-year Members:

Joann Boyett
Nancy Brennan
Bob McConnell
Pat McConnell
Joe (Earl) Robinson

These five names have been added to our Thirty-Year Membership Plaques that hang in the hallway of the Dwyer Center. We are proud to recognize our long-time members. Please join us in congratulating these five folks.

Submitted by Nancy Mabie

Meetings

Board Meeting
Sat. May 13 at 10 am
Roosevelt Auditorium

Membership Meeting
Sat. May 20 at 10 am
Roosevelt Auditorium
Library will open after the meeting

Note:
Gaspar Gomez, our in-house photographer will be available **May 20** from 11 am—2 pm in the Dwyer Classroom, to take photos of members for the 2023-24 Membership Yearbook.

May 14

(Library will be closed)



Breaking News!!!!

The San Antonio Genealogical and Historical Society is pleased to announce the availability of two new subscription services to our membership, effective May 1, 2023:
Newspapers.com Library Edition and ProQuest African American Heritage.

These new subscriptions are available on all our computers in both our Library and the Dwyer Center, and are in addition to our existing subscriptions, including Ancestry.com Library Edition, Fold3, Find My Past, American Ancestors, History GEO, and, of course, Family Search Affiliate.

Newspapers.com Library Edition provides online access to nearly 20,000 historical newspapers. It offers full-page images with searchable full text for millions of pages of newspapers dating from the early 1700's into the early 2000's. It contains full runs and portions of runs of known, regional and state titles to small local newspapers in the USA and other countries.

ProQuest African American Heritage is a groundbreaking digital resource exclusively devoted to African American family history research. This collection was created in partnership with leading African American genealogists and recognized leaders in genealogical information to develop a comprehensive mix of resources, records and tools specifically pertaining to African Americans.

Submitted by Steve Mabie



Quilt Tickets Available!

Tickets are now on sale for our latest quilt
"Stars & Stripes Forever"!

The Quilt is Queen-size, was made by Helen Parker, and donated in her honor.

The tickets are still only one dollar each, so buy early and often. See our duty Librarian for purchases.

The money raised from our quilt ticket sales are important to support our on-going Library functions.

San Antonio Genealogical and Historical Society is a proud member of the following societies:

Texas State Genealogical Society

National Genealogical Society MEMBER

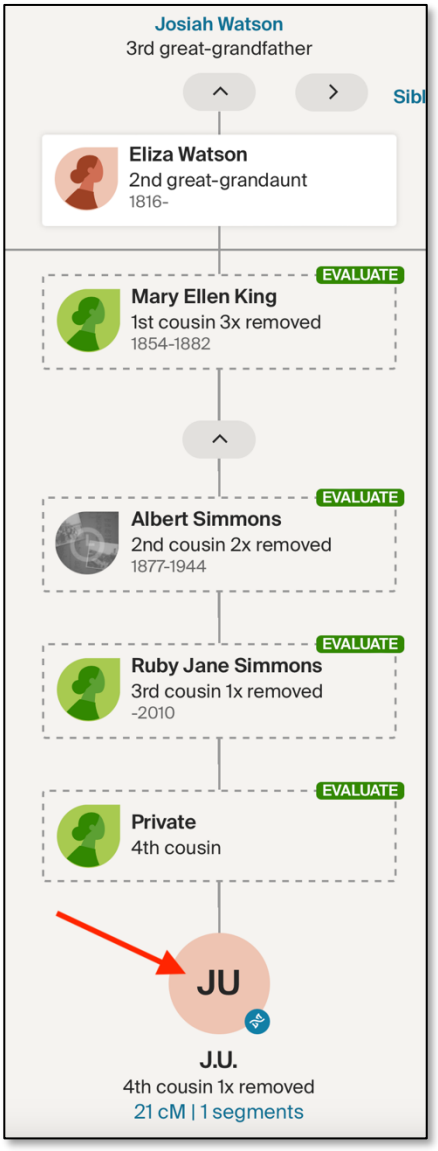
METHODS and SOURCES

by Leslie Tomlinson, CG

Using Pre-1850 Censuses and Records to Construct a Hypothetical Family: Part Three

Overcoming Glitches Along the Way

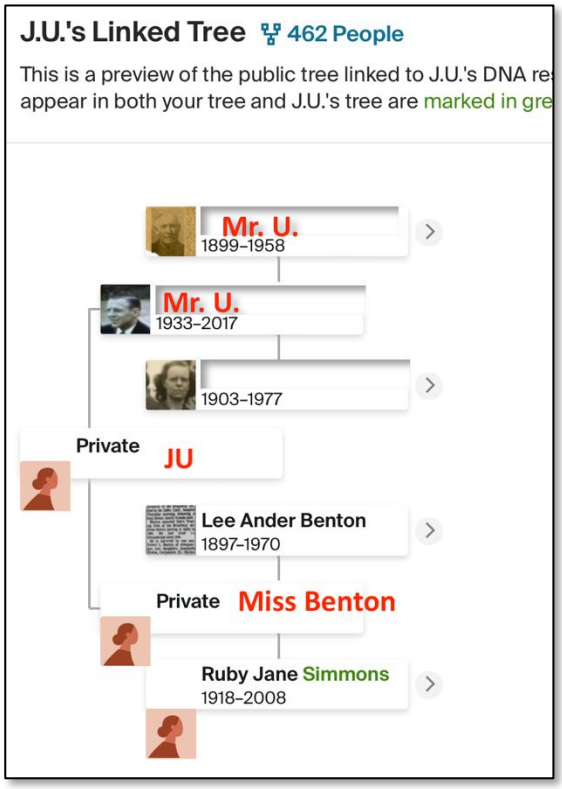
Review Parts One and Two of this series. The goal of these articles is to show how to construct hypothetical families in order to verify unknown ancestor lines. One way of doing this is using Ancestry's ThruLines. In the case discussed earlier several previously unknown children of Josiah and Martha Watson had descendants who were DNA matches to me. First, I needed to verify these lines before accepting them into my family tree. After reviewing Josiah's pre-1850 censuses, *four* previously unidentified children were indicated by tick marks. This article addresses how to work around problems occurring in verifying new lines.



Problem: Your DNA match name is only initials and/or "Private" appears in the place of a name.

At the right is an example of a DNA match named "JU" who is descended through Eliza Watson King's daughter, Mary Ellen. How would you begin to verify this unknown ancestral path? Usually you would begin with the known person and work your way back in time, but here you only see initials, so must start in the other direction. All the people with a dotted line around their names are not in my tree but appear in other family trees. So, the first step is to verify that Eliza had a daughter named Mary Ellen King. Because her suggested birth date is 1854, it is logical to check the 1860 census for Eliza and her husband Andrew King to see if Mary Ellen was listed living in their household. Remember that relationships are not given until the 1880 census, so this record is not proof she is a daughter, just a clue. There is indeed a Mary, aged six, living with them and born in Tennessee, making her birth year 1854 or 1855. Next, she is found in the 1870 census, at 17, suggesting she was born 1853–1854, living with Andrew and Eliza but born in Illinois. Are these the same individuals? Eventually I found confirmation that these were both the same person and that she was a daughter of Andrew and Eliza. The next step was to determine if Mary Ellen had a son Albert Simmons, and then if Albert had a daughter Ruby Jane, and so on. Briefly, all this information checked out. Ruby Jane

lived with her father and mother in 1920 and her father and his second wife in 1930. In 1940 she was living with her brother Joe Simmons. She was divorced with a last name of Benton and was 16 at her first marriage and had no children. However, using Ancestry, FamilySearch, and the Illinois State Archives, no marriage record was found. Next, I looked for hints in JU's tree by clicking on the pink JU circle to access it.



What can you tell from JU's tree illustrated at the right?[1]

- First, JU is a female who I have labeled in red.
- Her father and paternal grandfather are both deceased and have a surname starting with U, most likely the same as JU, but this could be a coincidence.
- Her mother is probably still living as she is identified as "Private." As Ancestry states, "People who appear as "Private" are either living people or people from private but searchable family trees."[2] Her mother's father was Lee Ander Benton, so I have identified her as "Miss Benton."
- Ruby Jane Simmons married Lee Ander Benton and had a daughter Miss Benton who married Mr. U. JU's tree details show a marriage date of 29 June 1935 in Johnston City, Williamson County, Illinois, for Benton and Simmons but there is no evidence attached. This date was in several other trees, so it was worth investigating further. Checking the Williamson County Clerk's website I found it was possible to order a copy of a marriage certificate and so I received proof of the marriage. The information corroborated the census recording she was first married at 16.
- But what was their daughter's name? Remember Ruby was living with her brother in 1940, divorced, with no children. Lee Ander's 1940 census record recorded him as married, but there was no wife living with him. He had three daughters, aged 13, 4, and 3 years, and one son. The oldest daughter was too old to be Ruby's. Which of the other two was the Miss Benton who married Mr. U? The way I figured this out was by following Lee Ander in the 1950 census and his obituary of 1970 which named each daughter by her married name and where each lived. That confirmed the right daughter's name, but is not stated here for privacy purposes.
- According to the tree above Mr. U and Miss Benton then had a daughter JU. I found the couple's divorce record in California so it was logical to search that state's birth index at Ancestry entering the last name of her father and maiden name of her mother. I found JU.

Resolving this line was not an easy process. JU's tree had some flaws, such as misidentifying Albert Simmons's parents. But it yielded sufficient clues to help identify the DNA match and how we were related.

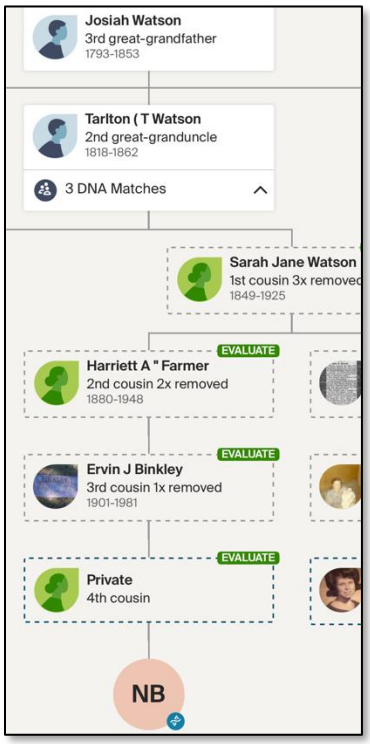
After confirming all of Eliza's other lines I moved on to her previously unknown siblings suggested by ThruLines: Joseph, Stephen, and recently Mary C. Remember an earlier biographic detail for Thomas J. Watson, one of Josiah's and Martha's sons that stated the family moved to Illinois and left Thomas, a brother, and a sister behind? The brother was Tarlton, who died in the Civil War, and the sister was Mary C. who married John Nelson Travis and remained in Tennessee. I used a similar process to confirm their lines. Now 13 children of Josiah and Martha have been confirmed, many using both documentary and DNA evidence. This number agrees with the thirteen children appearing as tick marks in Josiah's combined 1830 and 1840 census records and in Martha Watson's obituary.

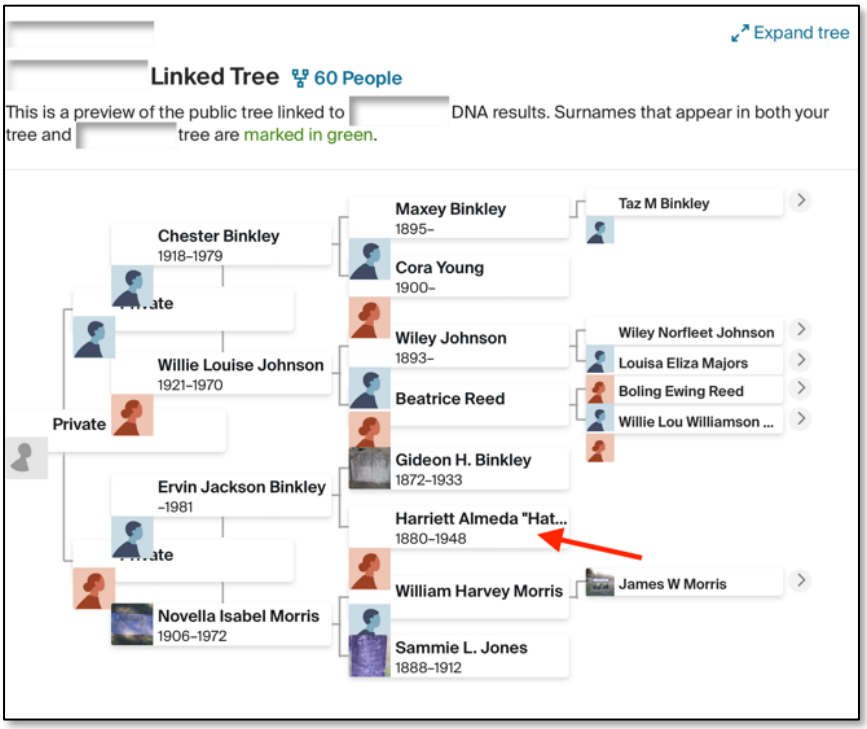
Known children of Josiah and Martha McCormack Watson

Age range 1830 census	Age range 1840 census	Age in 1850 census	Proved identity
M 30–39, b. 1790–1800	M 40–49, b. 1790–1800	58, b.1792	Josiah b. 1793
F 30–39, b. 1790–1800	F 40–49, b. 1790–1800	54, b. 1796	Martha b. 1794
M 10–14, b. 1815–1820		31, b. 1819	Tarlton b. 1818
M 10–14, b. 1815–1820		b. 1 Jan. 1818	Thomas J. b. 1818
F 10–14, b. 1815–1820			Eliza b. 1815–1816
M 5–9, b. 1820–1825	M 15–19, b. 1820–1825		Steven b. 1823
M 5–9, b. 1820–1825			Joseph b. abt. 1825
M <5, b. 1825–1830	M 10–14, b. 1825–1830	23, b. 1827	James b. 1825–1826
M <5, b. 1825–1830	M 10–14, b. 1825–1830	23, b. 1827	John b. 1829
F <5, b. 1825–1830	F 10–14, b. 1825–1830		Mary C. b. 1829
	F 5–9, b. 1830–1835	20, b. 1830	Martha A. b. abt. 1830
	F 5–9, b. 1830–1835	17, b. 1833	Nancy b. 1835
	M <5, b. 1835–1840	13, b. 1838	Susan b. 1838
	F <5, b. 1835–1840	12, b. 1838	George b. 1839
		7, b. 1843	Sarah Jane b. 1843

Problem: Your DNA match's tree stops before it reaches your common ancestor and/or it has faulty information.

Another DNA match to me, "NB," is through Josiah's son Tarlton. ThruLines suggests the match is through Tarlton's daughter Sarah Jane as seen on the left below. But when going to NB's tree, he has no connection to the Watson line as seen on the right below.





What would you do next? In this case you would work from the top down again, i.e. confirming Tarlton had a daughter Sarah Jane. Find out if she married a man with the last name of Farmer. Next see if Harriett had a daughter who married a Binkley and had a daughter. Here it gets a little tricky because NB could be a male or female. But use clues within NB's tree to figure out the identity of the 4th cousin named "Private." She is female, likely still living, and probably born after 1920 as her father was born about 1901. Look for Ervin Binkley in censuses to determine possible daughters. Obituaries for Ervin, Ervin's wife, or his siblings may provide clues. Continue in this manner to figure out her children to see which one is NB. Ancestry's "U.S., Public Records Index" is very useful as it often returns a person's birth month and year.

Tips

- When you look at pre-1850 censuses online at Ancestry, be sure to check the actual image for the number of tick marks for each range of birthdates.
- Treat the trees of DNA matches as hints only until you can verify each parent-child relationship. Then you can safely add them into your family tree.

Certified Genealogist and CG are registered certification marks of the Board for Certification of Genealogists, used under license by board certificants after periodic competency evaluations.

[1] Some names have been removed for privacy purposes.

[2] https://support.ancestry.com/s/article/AncestryDNA-ThruLines?language=en_US

Interest Survey for 2024 classes/workshops

It is that time of year for our membership to suggest topics for classes/workshops for next year.

Attached is the list of potential topics that might be of interest to you. There is also an area to write-in other suggestions, or if able, to volunteer to teach a specific topic.

The Education Committee depends upon your input to plan next year's presentations.

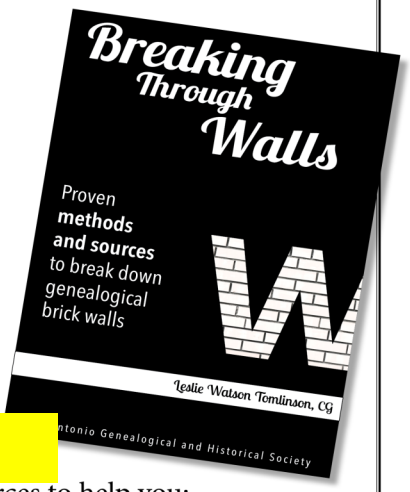
Please complete the form and send to SAGHS at 911 Melissa Drive, San Antonio, TX 78213; or you can drop it off in the Library.

We appreciate hearing from you

Submitted by Nancy McNamara

BREAKING THROUGH WALLS

by Leslie Watson Tomlinson, CG



Available now!

$20.00

Learn proven methods and sources to help you:

- develop strategies for breaking through brick walls
- build reliable cases for proving family relationships
- identify sources most likely to answer your research questions
- discover new records, archives, and collections

Soft cover, 112 pages, indexed. $20.

Help Wanted!

We are looking for volunteers for the following duties:

Librarian: Serves on the Board of Directors, and coordinates the activities of the Library and dedicated Library Volunteers.

Newsletter Editor: Publishes 10 issues per year. Coordinates the content of articles and news from Board and Committee Members.

Membership Yearbook Photos

The opportunity to have your photo included in the 2023-2024 Membership Yearbook is approaching for:

- New members and members whose photos are not in the 2022-2023 Yearbook, but would like to have a picture in the upcoming edition.
- Members whose photos are in the 2022-2023 Yearbook, but who would prefer a different one.
- If you have a photo in the 2022-2023 Yearbook and are satisfied with it, *do not send in another photo.*

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For those wishing to come to the Dwyer Center to have their photo taken,
our in-house photographer, Gaspar Gomez, will be available to take your photo:
Saturday **May 20** from 11 am until 2 pm.

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Those members who wish to submit a photo by post or by email need to follow these guidelines:

* Photos must be received no later than 31 July, 2023.
* Any photo received after 31 July will not appear in the 2023-4 Yearbook, but will be archived and used in future yearbooks.
* Either color or black and white photos may be submitted, even though the member photos will appear in black and white only.
* Member photos should contain head and shoulders only—not a full body or group photo.
* Photo should have a solid or uncluttered background. All submitted photos will be changed to a neutral background.
* No newspaper photos or clippings should be submitted.
* Photos should be reasonably recent (no childhood photos, for example)
* Joint members should each submit a separate photo.
* Mailed-in photos will not be returned unless the member includes a self-addressed, stamped envelope with adequate postage.
* Submitted photos may be used for a five-year period.
* Photos submitted by post should be clearly labeled on the back of the photo with the name of the individual, as the individual wishes it to appear beneath the photo in the Yearbooks.
* Hard copies of photos should be mailed to: SAGHS, 911 Melissa Dr, San Antonio TX 78213-2024.
* Digital photos should be emailed with the subject line “Photo Submission” to: publications@txsaghs.org and may also be emailed to cbbrussell@sbcglobal.net.

Submitted by Charles B. Brussells, Editor and Graphics Layout SAGHS Membership Yearbook

NEW BOOKS

LA cadd2	1850 Caddo Parish Louisiana Census	Boyett, Jeanie Knox and Joyce Shannon Bridges
LA cadd8	Caddo Parish Louisiana Cemetery Records, Volume 1	Friends of Genealogy
LA cadd8	Marriage and Death Notices Caddo Parish, Louisiana and Environs 1843-1871	Cawthon, Juanita Davis
LA cadd8	Marriage and Death Notices Caddo Parish, Louisiana and Environs 1843-1871	Cawthon, Juanita Davis
LA clai0	Clippings From Claiborne Parish Louisiana Newspapers, Volume 1	Head, Wanda Volentine and Gloria Lambert Kerns
LA clai8	Cemetery Inscriptions of Claiborne Parish, Louisiana, Volume 1	Head, Wanda Volentine and John Purnell Frazier
LA linc8	Lincoln Parish, Louisiana Marriage Records, 1873-1901	Farley, Willie Huffman
LA ouac8	Ouachita Parish, Louisiana Marriage Records 18003-1899	Head, John C.
LA redr8	Red River Parish Louisiana Marriage Records, 1871-1902	Head, John C.
MA norf4	Dedham, Massachusetts 1635- 1890ssachusetts	Robert Brand Hansom
MD 00004 (37)	White Servitude in Maryland 1634-1820	McCormac, Eugene Irving
MD 00006 (3)	More Maryland Deponents 1716-1799	Peden, Henry C.
MD 00007 (1h)	Maryland Calendar of Wills, 1744-1749, Vol. 9	Baldwin, Jane (Comp.)
MD 00007 (1j)	Maryland Calendar of Wills, 1748-1753, Vol. 10	Cotton, Jane Baldwin
MD 00007 (1k)	Maryland Calendar of Wills, 1753-1760, Vol. 11	Cotton, Jane Baldwin
MD 00007 (1m)	Maryland Calendar of Wills, 1764-1767, Vol. 13	Cotton, Jane Baldwin
MD anne8	Anne Arundel County, Maryland Marriage Records, 1777-1877	Powell, John W.
MD balt8	Inhabitants of Baltimore County, 1692-1763	Wright, F. Edward
MD balt8	Inhabitants of Baltimore County, 1763-1774	Peden Jr, Henry C.
MD balt8	Baltimore County Marriage Licenses, 1777-1798	Smith, Dawn Beitler

Submitted by Beverly Rakowitz

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Publications@txsaghs.org

Library Hours

Sun.: 1 pm – 5 pm
Mon.: 10 am – 4pm
Wed.: 10 am – 7 pm
Sat.: 10 am – 4 pm

Library Closures:
New Year's Day, Easter, Mother's Day, Memorial Day, Founders Day, Father's Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Seminar, Thanksgiving Eve, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year's Eve
ALSO: Delayed opening on Membership Meeting days.

Upcoming Events at SAGHS

Classes are held in the Dwyer Center
Please Pre-register by calling the Library during business hours at:
210-342-5242 or via email to:
education@txsaghs.org

Sunday May 7
Find-a-Grave Class
2 pm—4 pm
Peter Baron

Wednesday May 10
FamilyTree Maker/WikiTree Workshop
10 am—12 pm
Scott Atkinson

Saturday May 13
DNA Consult Hours
10 am, 11 am, 12 pm
Annette Graham

Sunday May 21
Navigating Roots Magic
2 pm—4 pm
Suzy Bettic

Saturday June 3
Family Tree Maker/WikiTree
10 am—12 pm
Scott Atkinson

Sunday June 4
Researching Canadian Families, Emphasis on Loyalists during the American Revolution
2 pm—4 pm
Steve Mabie