**SAN ANTONIO GENEALOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

**911 Melissa Dr.**
**San Antonio TX**
**78213-2024**
**210-342-5242**

**Website:**
*https://txsaghs.org*

A Member Society
Chartered in 1959 as a
501 (c) (3) non-profit

**October 2022**

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A newsletter to inform members of Society activities and Library Acquisitions
**October 2022**



## President's Message

*Photo by Ray Weiland*

Dear Members & friends,

The Library is again open for research! The new amazing Hi-Density mobile shelving is installed in the Reference Room and loaded with our precious resources. These shelves have increased our capacity to the point that there is now space to expand. The room has a fresh coat of paint, tinted windows to block heat and glare, and new LED lighting. It looks wonderful! You must come and see!

This project required a lot of schedule juggling, because the wheels for our unit were not available, and would not be until possibly December. In the end, the company was able to purloin another unit. Thus, we were able to coordinate the work of all the contractors to keep the schedule on our timeline. With the assembly completed Thursday, Beverly Rakowitz and her helpers worked into the evening hours of Friday to get the books in their proper places, allowing us to open on Saturday. We owe Beverly and her group *many* thanks

Kudos also to Steve Mabie who, in Kurt's absence, coordinated *everything* and dealt well with the frustrations that came with the effort. Amazingly, his hair has not turned white! Our gratitude also to Rob Lewis who assisted Steve and arranged for the window tinting.

Didn't I tell you we have the best volunteers? Speaking of volunteers, thank you Jackie Meldrom for cleaning, organizing and labeling our shelves and drawers in the Dwyer Center Classroom! I may have to take her home with me!

Volunteers, please mark your calendars for the Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon in the Dwyer classroom on Tuesday November 22, 2022.

(Cont. page 2)




Laijla Alvarez Raul
Davila Barry Efron
Celeste Erman
Norayma Garcia
Laurie Hampton
James Nelson Carlota
Mandes Mitchell
Sammiego Deena Sessums

Submitted by Linda Monts

## Meetings

**General Membership Meeting**
Meeting at the Seminar
Sat. October 15th

**Board Meeting**:
Sat. November 12th
10 am Roosevelt Auditorium
**All are welcomed to attend!**



New High-Density Mobile Shelving in our Reference Room

President's Message (cont.)

**Our Seminar is Saturday Oct. 15th!** The last day to register and receive the free Box Lunch is Monday the 10th. The last day to register **for online access** is Wednesday the 12th. Last minute walk-in attendees will not receive the free box lunch and likely not the syllabus. On-site check-in begins at 8:30 am. The program begins at 9:00 am. We still need people to volunteer to help with door prizes & snacks. The sign-up list for volunteers is located in the Library entryway, on the round table next to the Library Sign-in Book. I think you are really going to enjoy our presenter Curt Witcher (and our door prizes).
See you there!

## MEMORIALS

**Dorothy Perez**, member and former 1st VP, passed away on August 11, 2022. Her Memorial Service will be held on October 14, 1 pm at the Coker United Methodist Church. The Church is located at 231 E North Loop Rd., San Antonio, TX.

**Carolyn Wilcoxen,** member and dedicated Library volunteer passed away on September 28, 2022.

Memorial donations in their names can be made in person during normal Library hours, or with a check mailed to: SAGHS Memorials, 911 Melissa Dr. San Antonio, TX 78213-2024.

(Please direct your memorial in the memo section of your check.)

*Funds donated for Memorials are used to purchase Library Collection Resources*

## Tech Corner

Reviewing how you write your family history can consist of three steps:

1. Spell check
2. Grammar check
3. Reading it aloud

Most of us are familiar with Microsoft Word's Spell Check and Grammar Check. In the Microsoft 365 version of Word, click **Review | Editor**. In the side pop-up panel, click **Spelling** or **Grammar**. [In older editions of MS Word, these appear in the 'Review' menu].
These options are useful, but as they are designed by software programmers, they may differ from a stylebook that you wish to use.

You also can read your writing aloud to yourself or ask someone to read it to you. This can give you a sense of how the document might "sound". If you don't have someone to help, in Word, go to **Review | Read Aloud**, [an option that is not available in older versions of Word]. Word's **Help** menu explains how to play, pause or select parts of your document. When you click **Read Aloud**, you can read along or close your eyes and listen as the computer voice (female) reads your style of writing. This may provide a different perspective of what you intended to communicate.

Submitted by Don Sharon

**Don't forget!!**
**November 6,** Daylight Savings Time Ends!
Turn back your clocks, and enjoy the extra hour.



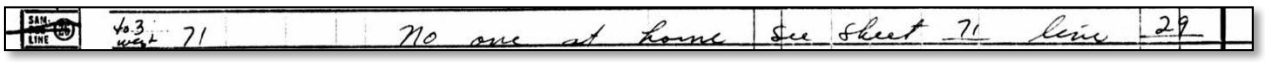
# METHODS and SOURCES

By Leslie Tomlinson, CG

## The 1950 Census Part 2

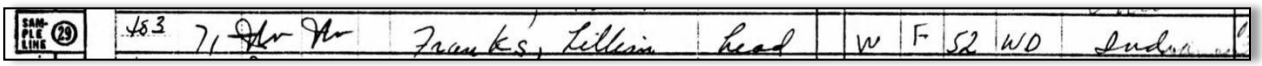
### Not at Home

If a family was not at home, the notes from the census taker redirect you to a later page where the information was captured. This example shows that no one was at home at dwelling number 71. The notes indicate that the record for this house was to be found on sheet 71, line 29.[1] You may find that the sheets at the end of the ED may not be in numerical order and some numbers may be skipped. You may have to search for the correct sheet number.



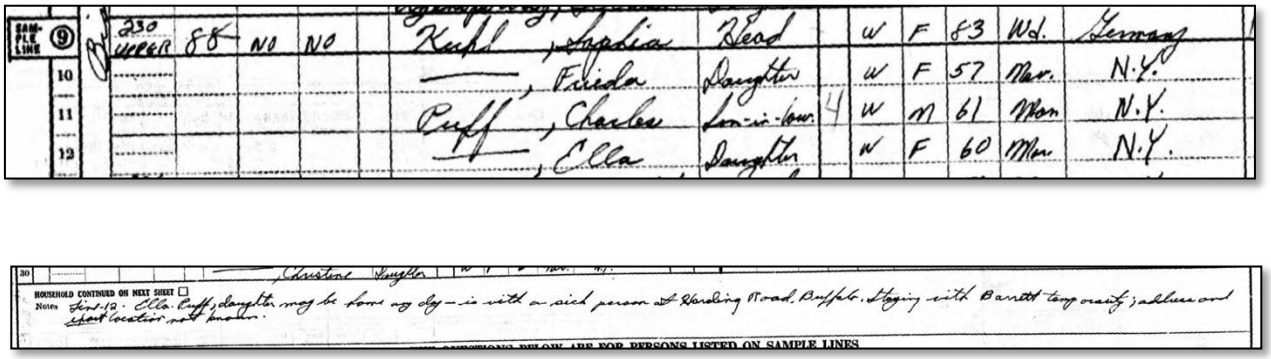

1950 U.S. census, no one at home, Wayne County, Ohio.

On sheet 71, Lillian Franks was the person not at home on the day the census was taken.[2]




1950 U.S. census, Lillian Franks, Wayne County, Ohio.

Notes regarding those who were not at home are not the only ones to be found. Surprisingly, there are many notes left by the enumerators. Examine the pages around your target individual's census record and see what you find. In the example below, there is an explanation of where and why a daughter was not home. "Line 12 — Ella Puff, daughter may be home any day — is with a sick person at Harding Road, Buffalo. Staying with Barrett temporarily; address and exact location not known."[3] This little tidbit of information may give you leads to a collateral line, explain an occupation, or reveal other family members.




1950 U.S. census, Ella Puff in household of Sophia Kuhl, Erie County, New York.

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Referenced websites were accessed at Ancestry.com on 9 August 2022.

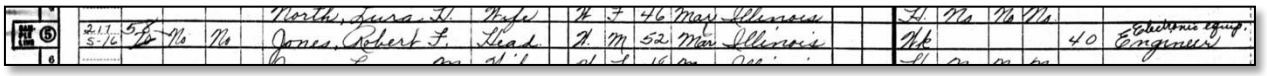
[1] 1950 U.S. census, Wayne County, Ohio, population schedule, Wooster, enumeration district (ED) 85-58, sheet 6, dwelling 71, no one at home.

[2] 1950 U.S. census, Wayne County, Ohio, population schedule, Wooster, enumeration district (ED) 85-58, sheet 71, dwelling 71, Lillian Franks.

[3] 1950 U.S. census, Erie County, New York, population schedule, Buffalo, enumeration district (ED) 65-483, sheet 9, dwelling 88, Ella Puff in household of Sophia Kuhl.

## Military service

Check the sample questions area to learn about a man's military service. In this example, Robert F. Jones, engineer, had served in both world wars.[4] Look for his corresponding military records at websites such as Ancestry, Fold3, and Family Search to learn more information such as his birthdate and place, next of kin, employment, and physical appearance details.

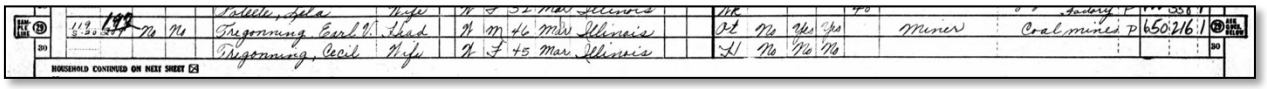


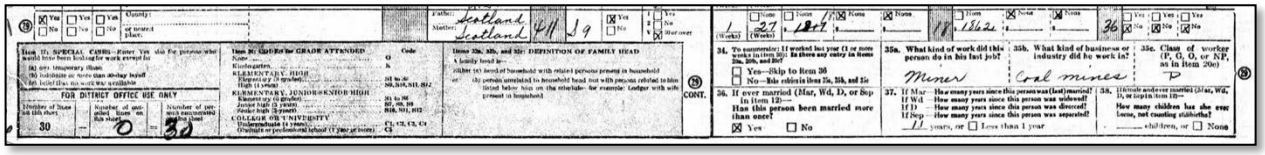



1950 U.S. census, Robert F. Jones, Williamson County, Illinois

## Contextual Details

Look for contextual information about your ancestor in the records for others living in the neighborhood. Is his job similar to those around him? Were the neighbors blue-collar workers or professionals? Were they out of work and seeking employment? Were they born in the same area as others on the nearby pages? In this example coal miner Earl Tregonning lived among many others with his same occupation, in a working-class neighborhood in Williamson County, Illinois.[5] His parents were from Scotland, so perhaps his father also was a coal miner. He had been married before, but for the last 11 years he had been married to wife Cecil. Look for evidence of his first marriage and for possible immigration and naturalization for his father.



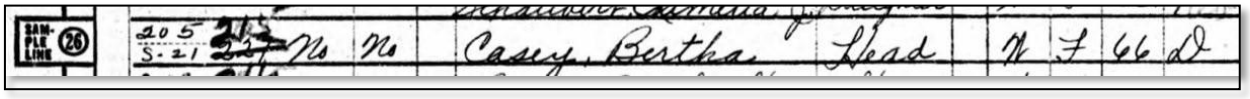

1950 U.S. census, Earl V. Tregonning, Williamson County, Illinois.

[4] 1950 U.S. census, Williamson County, Illinois, population schedule, Herrin, enumeration district (ED) 100-9, sheet 6, dwelling 58, Robert F. Jones.

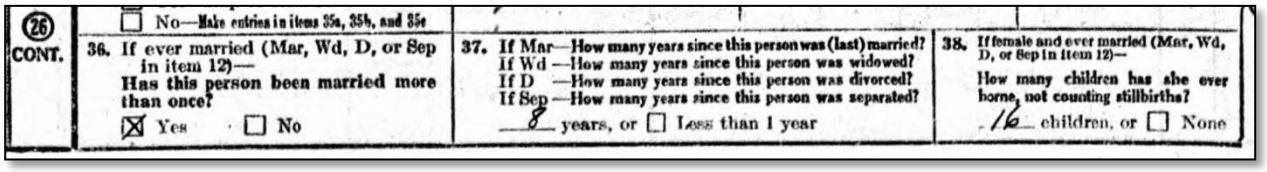
[5] 1950 U.S. census, Williamson County, Illinois, population schedule, Herrin, enumeration district (ED) 100-9, sheet 18, dwelling 197, Earl V Tregonning.

## Marriage Status and More

The marriage status designation is important to finding other spouses and approximate dates of marriage for the sample individuals. In the following example Bertha Casey was noted as being divorced, and the sample questions indicate she had been for eight years.[6] This information will help in finding marriage and divorce records. Also consider the number of children a women claimed to have had. If Bertha was your ancestor, could you account for the number of children she claimed she had, i.e. 16?



| SAMPLE LINE 26 | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 205<br>S-21 | No | No | Casey, Bertha | Head | W | F | 66 | D |



| 26 CONT. | 36. If ever married (Mar, Wd, D, or Sep in item 12)— Has this person been married more than once? | 37. If Mar—How many years since this person was (last) married? If Wd—How many years since this person was widowed? If D—How many years since this person was divorced? If Sep—How many years since this person was separated? | 38. If female and ever married (Mar, Wd, D, or Sep in item 12)— How many children has she ever borne, not counting stillbirths? |
|---|---|---|---|
| ☐ No—Make entries in items 35a, 35b, and 35c | ☒ Yes ☐ No | 8 years, or ☐ Less than 1 year | 16 children, or ☐ None |

1950 U.S. census, Bertha Casey, Williamson County, Illinois.

## In Summary

The 1950 census is rich in details. As the provider sites improve their indexing the corresponding search results will improve. Take the time to also investigate the enumerator's instruction manual to understand the questions asked and how each *should* have been answered.

## Resources

1950 Census Overview: https://www.archives.gov/research/census/1950. Questions asked, FAQs, Finding Aids, Instructions for Enumerators and the Public, Blank census forms, and more.

Enumerator's Instruction Manual for the 1950 Census: https://www.census.gov/history/pdf/1950instructions.pdf.

Enumerator's map: https://historyhub.history.gov/community/genealogy/census-records/blog/2021/08/04/1950-census-your-map-is-your-guide-use-it.

[6] Ibid, sheet 20, dwelling 215, Bertha Casey.

*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.*

**SPECIAL NOTICE:**

The 2023 issues of *Our Heritage*, might be our last, if we do not get a volunteer to serve as Editor. It would be a shame for SAGHS to lose this award-winning publication.
Please consider helping to keep *Our Heritage* alive!

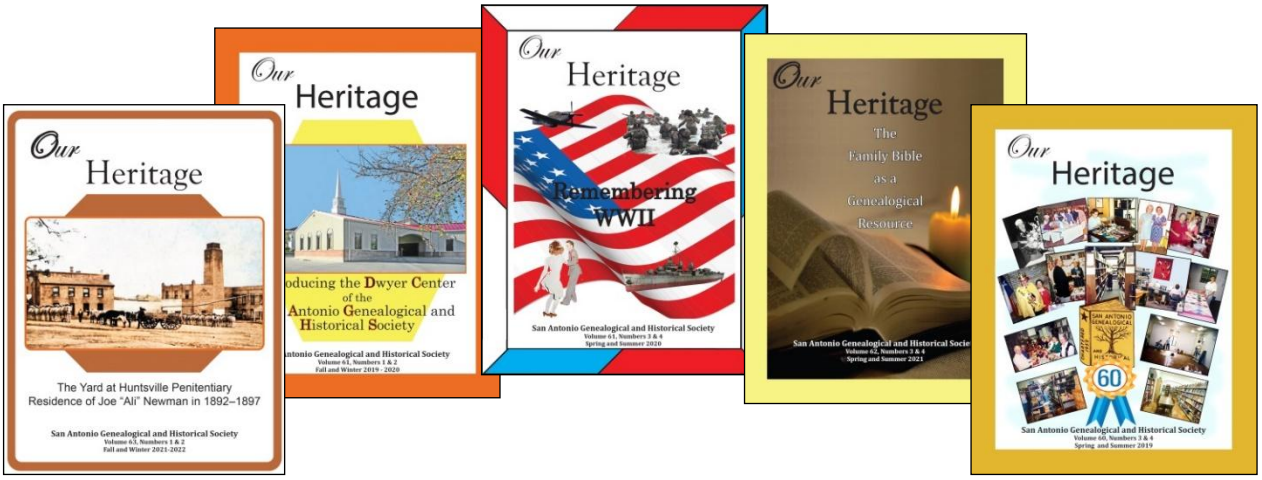
## Volunteer Urgently Sought To Save Our Journal

The San Antonio Genealogical and Historical Society is soliciting members who are interested in becoming the editor of *Our Heritage* (*OH*), the society's genealogy journal. Larry W. Luckett has served as editor of *OH* since July 2013. During his term, Larry has raised *OH*'s reputation for genealogical excellence and maintained a schedule of two issues annually covering the most relevant topics in genealogy, family stories, and Bexar County history.

Larry has indicated that he intends to step down from the editorship following the Spring-Summer 2023 issue (July 2023), providing an opportunity for another to serve as editor. Consequently, SAGHS is seeking an individual to fill this position. The selected person will be appointed "editor-designate" and will work with Larry for a period of time before taking over the full editor's role.

Being editor of the genealogy journal is both satisfying and educational. Satisfying, in the production of a relevant quality journal for the genealogical community while supporting the society and its members. Educational, as you learn more from working with individual authors on a variety of genealogical techniques, geographical areas, and historical periods. It is an opportunity to increase your genealogical skills.

Queries about this opportunity should be directed to Larry W. Luckett, current *Our Heritage* editor, *publications@txsaghs.org*.



## Board Briefs

Items from the Board of Directors Meeting of October 8, 2022

President/ First VP: Kudos to Steve Mabie, Rob Lewis & Bev Rakowitz for the coordination of the contractors who installed our Reference Room shelving, window tint and LED lighting. Plans for Saturday's Seminar are in place.

Second VP: Currently we have 408 members, which is only 20 less than last year at this time.

Treasurer: Our Financial Reports are posted under Member Resources in the Members Only section of the website.

Website: We are having sporadic issues with our website. Mr. Lewis will reach out to our provider, for a resolution.

Publications: The Yearbook had to be returned to the printer due to blank pages.
Ms. Tomlinson is working on the *Methods and Sources* book, based on her articles published in the Newsletter. The TxSGS Writing Award winners should be announced November 12, 2022. Mr. Luckett will be retiring as Editor of Our Heritage, Vol 64, 3 &4 will be his final edition. We need to find a replacement soon.

Buildings & Grounds: Mr. Mabie, in addition to the thanks to his helpers, noted the following items that need to be addressed: the windows in the Library need to be re-glazed, and a back door (off of the Beverly's office) needs to be replaced.

Education: The class schedule for 2023 is now complete, and posted on the website. The presenters are refining there topics, and descriptions.

We are awaiting quotes for the installation of an "adult-size" toilet and handicapped accessibility in the ladies restroom in the Dwyer Center.

We will wait Mr. Kneeland's return (expected in November) for a decision on the installation of smoke alarms.

New Business:

Ms. Boyer has offered us a kitchen sink, cabinets, counter top, and microwave, from her kitchen remodel. This too will be given to Mr. Kneeland to evaluate.

Submitted by Barbara Holmes



**Happy Halloween, October 31**

**Dia De Los Muertos, November 1-2**



| New Books | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Call Number** | **Title** | **Author** |
| FH Jett | Jett Trails West : A Genealogical Reference Book With Emphasis on the John Jett and Stephen Jett Families as They Migrated Westward from Virginia | Jett, Lois M., & Jett, Ernest C. |
| FH Miller | Millers and Munroes of West Texas | Miller, A. Leonard |
| FH Pearce | Pearce's Pioneering Days in Texas | Strom, Zelma (Hayley) |
| FH Teel | Getting away with Murder in the Old Southwest: The Life and Times of Major Trevanion T. Teel | Teel, Herbert D. Jr. and Deborah C. Slaney |
| FH Templeton | John Templeton of Iredell County, North Carolina: And Related Families of Handly, Marks, Folk, Pilcher, Colyar, Bate, and Beall | Norwalk, Jay |
| FH Thomas | Descendants of Michael Thomas (deceased 1789) of Wilkes County, Georgia. | Thomas, Allen, Carol Thomas Deady, and Randy Thomas |
| FH Triplett | Descendants of The Triplett Families; Virginia, North & South Carolina 1982 | Abbot, Mrs. Hortense E. |
| FH Varner | Varner Families of the South Volume Two, Varner Verner Families of Pendleton District, SC, and their Descendants | Varner, Gerald H. |
| FH Wadleigh | Wadleigh Chronicle | Wadleigh, Donald E. |
| FH Wallace | Directory of Wallace Researchers | Petracek, Ruth |
| GA 00006 (17) | Georgia Frontier: Volume I: Colonial Families to the Revolutionary War Period | Austin, Jeannette Holland |
| GA 00006 (17a) | Georgia Frontier: Volume II: Revolutionary War Families to the Mid-1800s | Austin, Jeannette Holland |
| GA 00006 (17b) | Georgia Frontier: Volume III: Descendants of Virginia, North Carolina, and South Carolina Families | Austin, Jeannette Holland |
| GA 00008 (15) | Georgia Free Persons of Color, Volume I, Elbert, Hancock, Jefferson, Liberty, and Warren Counties | Ports, Michael A. |
| GA 00008 (15a) | Georgia Free Persons of Color, Volume II, Appling, Camden, Clarke, Emanuel, Jones, Pulaski, and Wilkes Counties. 1818-1865 | Ports, Michael A. |
| GA 00008 (15b) | Georgia Free Persons of Color, Volume III, Baldwin, Columbia, Lincoln, Lumpkin, Taliaferro, and Thomas Counties, 1799-1865 | Ports, Michael A. |
| GA 00008 (15c) | Georgia Free Persons of Color, Volume IV, Chatham County, 1817-1863 | Ports, Michael A. |
| GA 00008 (15d) | Georgia Free Persons of Color, Volume V, Richmond County, 1799-1863 | Ports, Michael A. |
| IL cook0 | Finding Your Chicago Ancestors: A Beginner's Guide to Family History in the City and Cook County | DuMelle, Grace |
| KY 00004 (40) | Big Sandy Valley: A Regional History Prior to the year 1850 | Jillson, Willard Rouse |
| KY 00004 (42) | Kentucky in retrospect; noteworthy personages and events in Kentucky history, 1792-1967 | Clift. G Glenn |
| LA 00000 (16) | Early Sawmill Towns of the Louisiana-Texas Borderlands | Block, W.T. |
| LA 00001 (5) | German Coast Families: European Origins and Settlement in Colonial Louisiana | Robiehaux; Jr., Albert J. |

Submitted by Beverly Rakowitz

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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, Oct. 15, Thanksgiving Eve, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year's Eve.

# Upcoming Events at SAGHS

Classes are held in the Dwyer Center
Social distancing will be respected
Please Pre-register by calling the Library at
210-342-5242 or via email to: ***education@txsaghs.org***

**Sat. Oct. 15**
**Annual Seminar**
**9 am -4 pm**
*Curt Witcher*

**Wed. Oct. 19**
**Family Tree Maker/Wiki Tree**
**10 am – 12 pm**
*Scott Atkinson*

**Sat. Oct. 29**
**Alabama/Mississippi Consult Hr.**
**10:30 am**
*Jim Keith*

**Sat. Nov. 5**
**DNA Consult Hrs.**
**10 am, 11 am, 12 pm**
*Annette Graham*

***Mon. Nov. 7***
***Part 1 of 2 Parts***
***Beginner's Genealogy***
***10 am – 2:30 pm***
*Stephanie Wells*
*Advanced payment due Oct. 22*
*$40 Members, $55 Non-Members*

**Wed. Nov. 9**
**Family Tree Maker/Wiki Tree**
**10 am – 12 pm**
*Scott Atkinson*

**Sat. Nov. 12**
**DNA Consult Hour**
**10 am, 11 am, 12 pm**
*Annette Graham*

**Sun. Nov. 13**
**Find a Grave**
**2 pm – 4pm**
*Laura Grover*