

EDMOND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



www.edmondgensoc.org
www.facebook.com/EdmondGenSoc
email: info@edmondgensoc.org



15700 N. Pennsylvania

ATTENTION!

Monday, January 20, 2025 MEETING CANCELLED, due to cold temperatures and predicted snow. Instead, the following scheduled presentation will be emailed to all members.

GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

Presented by Karen Blagg, EGS Treasurer



For those of us who are hoping to visit Washington, D.C. to do some genealogy research, our first meeting of 2025 will provide information of what is available to research there and how it is done. Because technology has changed so dramatically in the past few years, many of these sources are now accessible via the internet at home, as well!

Karen Blagg has been retired for five years, and as an empty-nester she enjoys traveling, reading, gardening, and (of course) genealogy.

DO YOU HAVE OUTLAWS, BLACK SHEEP OR LAWMEN IN YOUR FAMILY TREE?

If so, we would like you to tell us all about it at our March 2025 meeting. Any stories about disreputable ancestors, relatives who knew or interacted with them, or lawmen who rounded them up, will be fun for all of us to hear about.

Start planning ahead for YOUR presentation!

Please email any photos, documents, newspaper articles, etc. that you would like to use in your presentation to **Jan Beattie at jankb80@sbcglobal.net** She will create a PowerPoint presentation with everyone's slides.

Also, please limit your presentation to 5-10 minutes, in order to allow time for all who are participating.

PLEASE SEND YOUR PHOTOS to JAN by MARCH 1ST!

EGS Meeting Location

EGS monthly meetings are held at the **Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 15700 N. Pennsylvania, Edmond.**

Entrance is at both the east and the south doors for all attendees. *The SOUTH door is much easier for those of us unable to climb steps!*

If you're experiencing signs of illness, please stay home!

The Edmond Genealogical Society meets on the third Monday evening of each month, except December. Meetings begin at 6:30 pm and last approximately one hour.

GENEALOGY TIP

LAND RECORDS

Since our presentation this month is about doing research in Washington DC, this is a repeat of a popular genealogy tip about records that can be found in the National Archives.

In the U.S. recording of the sale of land began in the early 1600's in some areas, and *includes more individuals than any other type of record except our censuses*. Much information is packed into these documents, just waiting for you to find!

What Can You Learn from Land Records?

These documents often named the spouses and children of those participants. Occupations were usually listed in some form, as well as citizenship status and where the Grantor moved after the sale. Witnesses were required to execute documents, and the witnesses were often neighbors or family members. This can be extremely useful during the years between the 10-year censuses because every time a piece of land changed ownership, it underwent this process.

Unlike records that track people, land records are an historical trail of what happened to the land, which brings several benefits to mind:

- They are easy to find, because for the most part they are kept where the land is. Find the state or county where your ancestor lived, and you will find the land record.
- Except in cases of fire or flood, land records in a given county will be preserved from the origin of that county to the present. Even in cases of fire or flood, the counties make an extraordinary effort to recreate destroyed records.
- These records are public information and you have a right to access them.
- They are kept in logical order: they are catalogued according to the date when the change of ownership is presented.

What Do You Need to Know to Begin?

Two kinds of land records exist: **public land records** held nationally, and **state land records** held in the state and/or county level.

Public Land Records: except for the original 13 colonies that became states after the American Revolution, all the land in the U.S. originally belonged to the federal government. Consequently, if your ancestor did NOT live in one of the original colonies, that person would have petitioned the U.S. government to acquire land, and you should begin your search for records at the Bureau of Land Management and the National Archives:

<https://glorerecords.blm.gov/default.aspx>

Credit: ancestorcloud.com



WE NEED YOU! Have some fun in your spare time and volunteer at the Edmond Genealogical Library!

It is so easy! Just volunteer for three hours, one day a week. Often it is very quiet and is **the perfect time to work on your own genealogy!** Remember that the library has free access to Ancestry.com and Newspapers.com!

Contact Sara Memmott at

simmemott@gmail.com for information.

We need YOUR ideas for program suggestions!

If you have a topic you would like to hear discussed, let us know so that we can try to find an appropriate speaker.

Or if you would like to do a presentation, there is no better way to learn about a subject or topic than to research it and bring a program to the group.

One such idea for a presentation is how you solved a "brick wall" in your research. Can you think of other subjects?

Please email Iris May at purplemayflower@yahoo.com with your ideas and suggestions.

THANKS!

UPCOMING PROGRAMS and EVENTS

Feb. 3 6 pm - 7:30 pm	Oklahoma Genealogical Society "Forensic Genetic Genealogy," presented by Mauri Pratt. Oklahoma History Center, Musser Learning Lab, 800 Nazih Zuhdi Dr., OKC For more info go to okgensoc.org
Feb. 8 10 am	Oklahoma Historical Society "A Life on Fire: Oklahoma's Kate Barnard." Author talk with Connie Cronley. Books available for sale and author signature. Held at Oklahoma Territorial Museum & Carnegie Library, 406 E. Oklahoma Ave., Guthrie, OK For information call 405-394-1947 or go to okhistory.org
Feb. 16 10 am	OHCE Genealogy Group "Sandtown, Oklahoma 1884 – First Black Community Settlement in the State" and "My Family's Journey," presented by Loyce Newton-Edwards. Held at Okla. County Extension, 2500 NE 63rd St., OKC. For info: www.ohcegenealogy.com
Feb. 19 12 – 1 pm	Oklahoma Historical Society "Lunch & Learn - Finding Your Native Roots: The Dawes Rolls" Presented by Laura Martin. Held at the Oklahoma History Center, 800 Nazih Zuhdi Dr., OKC Register at okgensoc.org/spho or at 405-521-6249

RECURRING MEETINGS

OHCE Genealogy Group is currently holding meetings in-person at the OSU Extension Center Conference Center, 2500 NE 63rd St, in Oklahoma City. Meetings are held the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 10:00am. Visit www.ohcegenealogy.com for info.

The Central Oklahoma Chapter of AHSGR – American Historical Society of Germans from Russia has meetings on the 3rd Sat. of each month. Visit www.ahsgr.org/?CentralOklahoma for more information.

Logan County Genealogical Society meets the 3rd Saturday at 1:00pm at the Oklahoma Territorial Museum in Guthrie. For more information visit: www.sites.rootsweb.com/~oklchs/ or contact Nelda Brown at LCGS1419@gmail.com



FOUR MORE NEW NAMES ON THE SURNAME PROJECT!

THANK YOU to new member **Donna Kucera Le**, who added four new names of ancestors to the Surname Project, including **Weathers, Newdiger, Wilhelm and Kucera**. Many (but not all) EGS members have submitted their family surnames to be added to the **SURNAME PROJECT** spreadsheet, bringing us up to **337 surnames so far!**

This project will help you and fellow members who may be researching the same family lines or have a research dilemma. This is your opportunity to pay it forward to everyone in our great genealogical society!

If you haven't already done so, please fill out a sheet listing the family surnames you are researching and their locations, dates and other pertinent information. Such as: "Jenkins in North Carolina in the 1800's." **VOLUNTEERS ARE INDEXING THIS INFORMATION AND IT WILL SOON BE POSTED ON OUR WEBSITE!!**

A BLANK FORM IS INCLUDED AS THE LAST PAGE OF THIS NEWSLETTER. Use as many sheets as you need. Please return them to any board member at our meetings, or mail to:

EGS, c/o Edmond History Museum, 431 S. Boulevard, Edmond, OK 73034



Genealogical Library at Edmond History Museum

IN CASE YOU MISSED NOVEMBER'S MEETING:



EGS BOARD MEMBERS 2024-2025 Standing, left to right: Joyce Gendill, Karen Blagg, Jay Cress, Sara Memmott, Jan Beattie
Seated, left to right: Iris May, Edie May Parmeter, Libby Holshouser



EGS Treasurer, Karen Blagg, told us that her mother was adopted at age 12. In 1994 Karen began researching and eventually discovered that her mother had 13 siblings, five of which were half-siblings!

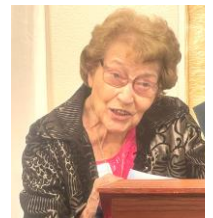


Karen arranged for seven of the siblings to meet in Edmond, as a surprise for her mother. First time they had been together in 45 years! Later, via DNA Karen was able to locate *another* half-sister still living.

EGS Surnames Project Chairman, Edie May Parmeter, and her husband adopted two siblings in 1965. The children, whom they named Donita & Keith, were very happy, and they always knew they were adopted.



When the daughter was 14 years old she expressed an interest in finding out if they had any siblings. Edie May did a lot of research, and eventually was able to help find all six siblings, most of whom had been adopted to different families. In 2001 they had a huge reunion, the first time the brothers & sisters had all been together in 36 years!



EDMOND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY Officers 2024-2025

- Jan Beattie:** President
- Iris May:** 1st Vice President/Programs and Publicity Chairman
- Karen Blagg:** Treasurer
- Sara Memmott:** Past President, Museum Liaison/ Genealogical Library and Research Center Chairman and Recording/ Corresponding Secretary
- Libby Holshouser:** Hospitality Chairman
- Edie May Parmeter:** Surnames Project Chairman and Membership Committee
- Jay Cress:** Webmaster
- Joyce Gendill:** Newsletter Chairman



Joyce Gendill, EGS Newsletter Chairman, discovered a long-hidden family secret, in which her grandmother's out-of-wedlock baby daughter was taken away in 1935 and no one knew what happened to her.

In 2018 Joyce had her DNA tested with Ancestry.com and 23 & Me, and soon she was notified of a possible 1st cousin-once removed, whom she immediately contacted. They had long phone conversations, trying to find their connection. When he said his mother had been adopted as a baby in 1935, Joyce was able to do further research and determined it was the long-lost daughter (pictured above)! Her son reassured Joyce that his mother had a very happy life and several children, until that she passed away in 2005.



THE FOLLOWING PAGE IS THE SURNAME PROJECT FORM (see info on Page 3 of this newsletter). Please fill out the form and return it to any board member at our meetings, or mail to:
EGS, c/o Edmond History Museum,
431 S. Boulevard, Edmond, OK 73034

Edmond Genealogical Society

Date: _____

Name of Researcher: _____

Email Address: _____ Phone # (optional) _____

Name(s) you are researching (last name first)	Location(s) (e.g. country, state, county, city)	Comments (e.g. dates)
<i>Return to any EGS Board Member</i>	<i>or mail to: EGS c/o Edmond History Museum</i>	<i>431 S. Boulevard Edmond, OK 73034</i>