



# **KINTRACKS**

Newsletter  
of

**CRAVEN COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY  
OF  
NORTH CAROLINA**

**P.O. Box 1344, New Bern, NC 28563-1344**

**[www.cravengenealogy.org](http://www.cravengenealogy.org)**

**Dedicated to Fostering Interest in the  
Research, Preservation and Sharing  
of  
Our Family Heritage**

**VOLUME XXVII**

**New Bern, NC, USA**

**NUMBER 2**

**March - April 2020**

Notices, Table of Contents, Officers and Directors, and Editor's Message

**Upcoming Meetings & Other Events:**

**Tuesday, March 10<sup>th</sup> – 6:30pm: Social Time; 7:00pm: Program: Victor T. Jones, Jr.,  
“What’s New in the Kellenberger Room?”**

**Tuesday, April 14<sup>th</sup> – 6:30pm: Social Time; 7:00pm: Program: Johnny Surles,  
“Mystery of D. B. Cooper”**

**KinTracks: ✕Cutoff date for articles in the May-June 2020 KinTracks: May 6, 2020**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Pg #   Table of Contents:**

- 3   President’s Message – Nancy Perdue**
- 4-5   What’s New in the Kellenberger Room? - Victor T. Jones, Jr.**
- 5   Online Sources for Finding Your Revolutionary War Patriot Ancestors – Lou Walker**
- 6-8   How to Find Your Family History in U.S. Church Records: A Genealogist’s Guide**
- 9-10   Genealogy Advice by Amy Johnson Crowe:  
          DNA-The Shifting Landscape of Genetic Genealogy**
- 11   Medley: New Members, Tips & Genealogy Humor**
- 12   Membership Application & Renewal Form**

.....  
**2020 Officers and Members of the Board:**

<b>President – Nancy Perdue</b>	<b>Secretary – Maureen Parker</b>
<b>Vice President &amp; Program Chair – Sandi Hawkins</b>	<b>Treasurer – Melonia Garris</b>
<b>Directors at Large: Ethel Hess, David French &amp; Bill Wilson</b>	<b>Webmaster: David French</b>
<b>Archivist: Anita Myers</b>	

.....  
**Message from KinTracks Editor: Carolyn McCulley – [mmccully@ec.rr.com](mailto:mmccully@ec.rr.com)**

We appreciate our members’ contributions to KinTracks! Nancy Perdue provided her President’s Message – always appreciated. Victor Jones provided his list of recent additions to the Kellenberger Room and also will be our program speaker at our March 10<sup>th</sup> meeting. Our speaker last month, Lou Walker, has contributed a list of helpful websites to help you research Revolutionary War patriot ancestors. Thank you, Lou and Victor!

Members are encouraged to contribute accounts of their research experiences, “how to” advice, helpful online resources and websites, a “Eureka!” moment, or any other items you think may be of interest to our members. Please send these items via email to me at the email address shown above.

The LDS Family History Center, 1207 Forest Drive, New Bern, is open for research on Tuesday & Thursday from 1-4 pm, and Tuesday & Wednesday from 6-9 pm; staffing is by volunteers only.

Please note that web sites underlined, highlighted, or listed in this newsletter are hyperlinked; however, on some computers, instead of just “Left Clicking” your mouse on the web site address, you will need to do both “Control (depress Ctrl key) and Left Click” on the internet address to open the web link.



## **President's Message**

### **March – April 2020**

It looks like the weather cannot decide whether it's still winter or turning into spring. I'm ready for nice sunny weather, but the cold damp conditions have given us an excuse to stay inside and work on our genealogy research.

I received a letter of resignation from Priscilla Sumislaski that, due to personal issues, she had to resign from the Vice-President position. The Society thanks her for the excellent job she did in organizing our participation in the Tryon Palace Family History Day and for scheduling many of our upcoming programs for this year. We look forward to working with Priscilla in the future. Sandi Hawkins has stepped up and offered to assume the position of Vice-President and Program Chair, for which I am most grateful. We are always looking for potential programs, so if you have any suggestions, contact Sandi Hawkins.

Victor Jones, Department Head & Special Collections Librarian, Kellenberger Room, New Bern-Craven County Library, will inform us about what's new in the Kellenberger Room at our March 10<sup>th</sup> membership meeting. On April 14<sup>th</sup>, we will be learning about the infamous D. B. Cooper mystery from Johnny Surlis. If you do not know who D. B. Cooper is, Google his name before the meeting. This program should be very interesting. We also are looking forward to our June meeting that will have Amanda Powell from the Pamplin Historical Park in Petersburg, Va. performing a "reverse strip tease" as she adds on layers of period clothing and describes the purpose of each piece of clothing. We will have more details in our May newsletter.

The Board is looking into the possibility of offering another genealogy research class in the Fall. We are focusing on the topic for the class and investigating the logistical details. More information will be forthcoming.

It's time to renew your annual membership for 2020, if you have not done so. Please see our Treasurer Melonia Garris to renew your membership.

Nancy Perdue  
President



## What's New in the Kellenberger Room?

by Victor T. Jones, Jr.

### Department Head & Special Collections Librarian, Kellenberger Room

Recent acquisitions in the Kellenberger Room, New Bern-Craven County Public Library, 400 Johnson Street, New Bern, NC, are listed below:

- Allen, Sarah Cantey Whitaker. *Our children's ancestry*. R NC 929.2 ALLEN
- Barry, Gerald J. *The Sailors' Snug Harbor : a history, 1801-2001*. R NC 362.85 BARRY
- Bodge, George M. (George Madison), 1841-1914. *Soldiers in King Philip's War*. R GEN 929.374 BODGE
- Deane, Samuel, 1784-1834. *History of Scituate, Massachusetts, from its first settlement to 1831*. R GEN 974.482 DEANE
- Deluise, Kristina Steinlein. *City of Norfolk, Virginia supplemental tax book 1, 1801-1812*. R GEN 929.3755 NORFOLK DELUI
- Deluise, Kristina Steinlein. *City of Norfolk, Virginia tax book 1, 1783-1787*. R GEN 929.3755 NORFOLK DELUI
- Deluise, Kristina Steinlein. *City of Norfolk, Virginia tax book 2, 1788-1802*. R GEN 929.3755 NORFOLK DELUI
- Deluise, Kristina Steinlein. *City of Norfolk, Virginia tax book 3, 1803-1812*. R GEN 929.3755 NORFOLK DELUI
- Descendants of Joseph Wise*. R NC 929.2 WISE DESC
- Dookhan, Isaac. *A history of the Virgin Islands of the United States*. R GEN 972.9722 DOOKH
- Fleet, Beverly. *Virginia colonial abstracts. Vol. 10-13. Charles City County, Virginia, court orders, 1655-1661 and 1661-1696*. R GEN 929.3755 CHARLES FLEET
- Hardy, Michael C. *General Lee's immortals : the battles and campaigns of the Branch-Lane Brigade in the Army of Northern Virginia, 1861-1865*. R NC 973.742 HARDY
- Hazelwood, Donald E. *Tight ranks : the fighting record of the 34th North Carolina Infantry in the Civil War, a history and roster*. R NC 973.7456 34th HAZEL
- Lawrence, John. *[Carruthers family information]*. R NC 929.2 CARRUTHE LAWRE
- Lofffield, Thomas C. *Archaeological and historical survey of U.S.M.C. Base Camp Lejeune*. R NC 975.623 LOFTF
- Markers of time : Cemeteries of Onslow County*. R NC 929.3 ONSLOW ONSLO (4 volumes)

McGraw, Thomas F. *Gunboat Bombshell : the curious war of a Union Army gunboat, November 7, 1861-April 20, 1864.* R NC 973.75 MCGRA  
Meldrum, Charlotte D. *Early church records of Burlington County, New Jersey.* R GEN 929.3749 MELDR  
Orange County records. *Granville Proprietary Land Office records.* R NC 929.3 ORANGE BENNE (4 volumes by William D. Bennett)  
Peden, Henry C. *Early Anglican Church records of Cecil County, Maryland.* R GEN 929.3752 PEDEN  
Robertson, F. M. (Francis Marion. *Resisting Sherman : a Confederate surgeon's journal and the Civil War in the Carolinas, 1865 : based on the diary of Francis Marion Robertson, M.D.* R NC 973.782 ROBER  
Schoettle, Michael. *Abstracts of Lower Norfolk County, Virginia, Deed Book 4, 1675-1686.* R GEN 929.3755 NORFOLK SCHOE  
Siebert, Patrick E. *My journey to Genesis : the family histories of Patrick E. Siebert.* R NC 929.2 SIEBE  
Williams, Alicia Crane. *Early New England families.* R GEN 929.374 WILLI  
Zucchini, David. *Wilmington's lie : the murderous coup of 1898 and the rise of white supremacy.* R NC 305.8 ZUCCH

\* \* \* \* \*

## **Online Sources for Finding Your Revolutionary War Patriot Ancestors**

**Contributed by CCGS Member & February 2020 Program Speaker Lou Walker**

**Researching Your Patriot Ancestor:** <http://www.learnwebskills.com/patriot/revservice.htm>

<https://www.dar.org/> click on Genealogy Tab. Detailed step by step instructions contained in this site & on website video. Or type in:

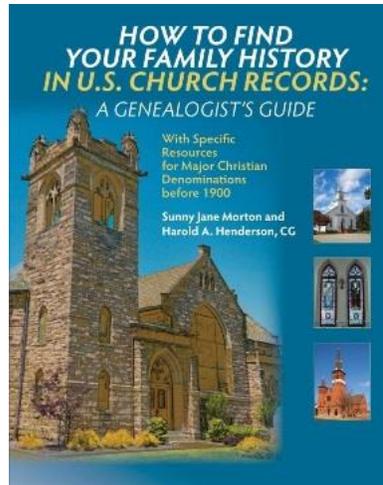
[https://services.dar.org/public/dar\\_research/search/default.cfm?tab\\_id=0](https://services.dar.org/public/dar_research/search/default.cfm?tab_id=0)

**Southern Campaign Revolutionary War Pension Statements & Rosters – Searches the text of pensions and land grants. Updated daily!** <http://revwarapps.org/>

**NC Colonial Records –** <http://docsouth.unc.edu/csr/> - Search on your ancestor's surname

**U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, General Land Office Records.** <https://glorerecords.blm.gov/>

**Ancestry.com:** Card catalog search - search the words “Revolution” & “Revolutionary”



## “How to Find Your Family History in U.S. Church Records: A Genealogist’s Guide”

by **Sunny Jane Morton & Harold H. Henderson, CG**

[Excerpted from Genealogical Publishing Company’s online genealogy blogs]

This recently published research guide continues to receive accolades in the genealogical media. In the December 2019 issue of the *National Genealogical Society Quarterly*, reviewer Robert Johnson called the book “a great addition for many personal libraries.”

Anne Lowery, writing for the members of one of the largest U.S. genealogical societies in the winter 2019 issue of *Ohio Genealogy News*, notes that “This work focuses on an underutilized resource for family historians . . . . This peer-reviewed publication offers a step-by-step guide through identifying, locating and gaining access to these unique sources . . . . The authors worked with over 30 archivists, historians and genealogical experts in specific faith traditions to create this guide.”

*[Editor’s note: This book is in the Kellenberger Room, New Bern-Craven County Public Library.]*

### **Noteworthy Facts about American Church Records**

by **Sunny Morton [Co-Author]**

Genealogical Publishing Company recently asked Sunny Jane Morton, co-author of [\*How to Find Your Family History in U.S. Church Records: A Genealogist’s Guide\*](#), to put together a short list of important or surprising features of American church records prior to 1900. Whether you are looking for a specific denomination, or want to test your knowledge of church records in general, we think you will find Sunny’s factoids quite illuminating. So, did you know that . . . ?

**Anglican Church** records in the Southern colonies served a semi-governmental function, so you might find tax records, land ownership evidence, and even assistance to the poor (provided or received). Many of these records have even been published.

Several churches have the word “**Brethren**” in the title. Determine *which* Brethren church your ancestors affiliated with by identifying the name of a minister or prominent member; finding the exact location of the church; or noting clues about unique doctrines or practices. Knowing the right church will help you use the resources in my book to track down the right records.

**Catholic Church** parishes are generally geographically defined, but some ethnic parishes formed around immigrant communities who wanted to worship with their own language and customs. Their sacramental records are an especially good place to find exact overseas birthplaces for immigrant ancestors.

The **Dutch Reformed Church** created some of the earliest church records in the British colonies. In addition to baptisms, marriages and burials, you may find membership lists and minutes documenting the everyday affairs of a congregation. Many have been gathered into central locations, published, and/or made available online.

**Latter-Day Saints** congregational membership records often reveal both genealogical data and acts of religious devotion. These are a great place to look for evidence of online, but unsourced, Latter-Day Saints family trees.

**Lutheran** records can be a genealogical gold mine! Infant baptismal records may have birth dates. You may find marriages, birthplaces, occupations, residences, deaths, funerals, burials, and even full family groups clustered together on the page with genealogical data.

## **Excerpt from “How to Find Your Family History in U.S. Church Records”**

### **“How can I use church records if I don’t know my ancestor’s denomination?”**

Given the wealth of information awaiting genealogists who delve into church records, this issue is fundamental to people who have hit a brick wall in their research. Below, we have excerpted the first two pages of Chapter Two to give readers a taste of how the experts uncover our forebears’ religious persuasions.

This chapter provides four approaches to locating ancestors’ churches. (If you already know the answer, you can skip this chapter - at least until you need to ask it of another ancestor.) They are listed starting with the most direct, and likely most useful, approaches:

1. Querying living relatives
2. Consulting other genealogical information on the family
3. Considering any migrations of which the family may have been a part
4. Finding churches near family residences at a given time, using county histories, historical maps, and city directories

## **QUERYING LIVING RELATIVES**

The most common source of knowledge on recent generations is the family itself. Some families have a history of attending the same parish for several generations. Other families may have diversified, but someone probably knows that great-grandma attended mass or was a lifelong Methodist.

You may have to ask this question of relatives you don't know or don't see frequently: second cousins, in-laws, great-aunts. In one case, the church was identified by cold-calling current residents of the ancestor's hometown who shared the same unusual surname. Clues may lead in the right direction without telling all: a relative may recall only an Italian-language congregation, a "holy-roller" service, or a church near the elementary school.

So, ask around the family:

- Did grandma or grandpa ever attend a specific church?
- Were they ever baptized? As a child or adult?
- Where was the church?
- Was anyone in the family married in a church or buried in a church cemetery?
- Did anyone join a different church from the rest of the family?
- Did any family members ever join the clergy/religious life?
- Did anyone attend a Sunday school or a church school?

Again, don't limit inquiries to direct ancestors. Information about a sibling, cousin, aunt, or more distant relative may shed just the light you need to identify a family faith.

## **CONSULT OTHER GENEALOGICAL INFORMATION ON THE FAMILY**

**Documents associated with someone's life may mention a church affiliation:**

- A delayed birth certificate or military benefits application may cite (or include!) an infant baptismal record as evidence of birth.
- Obituaries often mention a church affiliation, a minister's name, place of services, and place of burial—all useful clues to follow.
- Local or county histories may mention church affiliation in a biographical sketch of a relative. Skim the section on local churches for any familiar names.
- A government marriage record or newspaper marriage announcement should say who married the couple. Research that minister's affiliation through his listing in a city directory, county minister's license, biography in a county history, or similar sources.
- Other documents and artifacts—such as funeral programs, mass cards, insurance paperwork, death certificates, iconography on a tombstone, jewelry, devotional books, family letters, and more—may point to a family's religion.

## **Genealogy Advice by Amy Johnson Crowe**

### **From her website & blogs**

#### **DNA – The Shifting Landscape of Genetic Genealogy**

There was a time when DNA kits flew off of shelves and people lined up by the hundreds to purchase them on sale at genealogy events. Not anymore.

Why are sales slowing down? It's a tale of the shifting landscape of genetic genealogy... and some squandered opportunities.

**Slowing DNA Sales and Layoffs:** To say that DNA testing is huge in genealogy would be an understatement. It seems like everyone has taken a DNA test, whether it's through Ancestry, 23andMe, or any number of other companies. You can hardly watch television without seeing an ad for DNA testing.

But things are changing. Sales of DNA kits are slowing down. Yes, they're still selling, but they aren't flying off the shelf like they used to. Things have slowed down so much that both Ancestry and 23andMe have laid off staff.

In late January 2020, 23andMe laid off approximately 14% of its workforce. Ancestry laid off 6% of its workforce in early February. To be clear, the Ancestry layoffs weren't just in the DNA division. They were in many areas of the company.

**Why Are DNA Kit Sales Slowing Down?** So what happened? Leah Larkin, a genetic genealogist who tracks all sorts of industry stats at her site, The DNA Geek, reported in June 2019 that sales were slowing down. She pinpointed the decline at Ancestry, 23andMe, FamilyTreeDNA, and GEDMatch as beginning in April 2018.

I don't think it's a coincidence (and neither does Leah) that April 2018 is when it was announced that the Golden State Killer case was solved using genetic genealogy (specifically GEDmatch).

Suddenly it became clear to more people that these giant databases of genetic information could be used for more than just finding cousins and breaking down genealogical brick walls.

However, I don't think that the only reason for the slowdown is the dual issue of privacy and the use by law enforcement. **I think there are several other factors also at play.**

As Ancestry CEO Margo Georgiadis said in the public announcement of the layoffs, "The DNA market is at an inflection point now that most early adopters have entered the category."

In that regard, DNA is a lot like Tupperware. **There are only so many kits that you need to buy.**

Most people buy one kit and they're done. Some will buy kits for a few family members, but there are only so many family members you can test.

I think another reason for the slowdown in sales is that there's more news of people like my friend Jenny discovering family secrets via DNA.

Previously, I talked with Jenny about her experience discovering that the man who raised her, the man she called "Dad," was not her biological father. We're seeing more and more stories come out with surprises, whether it's an unexpected parentage or an unknown adoption.

**So what does all of this mean?** First, I think that overall, DNA testing has been good for the field of genealogy. It has brought countless people into the space and that's a good thing. The more people who are engaged, the better off we all are. Yes, there has been a chorus of "Oh, but they just took it for the ethnicity estimate." I'll grant you that. There is a probably-not-small percentage of test takers who only want to find out about their ethnicity estimates.

But I've always looked at people coming to genealogy via DNA as an opportunity. True, there are going to be people who get the pie chart and they're satisfied. They're done. But there are also going to be the people who get the pie chart and they're *not* satisfied. It whets their appetite to find out more.

**And here's where the opportunity is being squandered.** According to its website, Ancestry has sold 16 million DNA tests and currently has 3 million paying subscribers. (Stats viewed February 2020.)

I realize that isn't a perfect 1:1 comparison. And I know that of the 3 million paying subscribers, many of them have purchased multiple tests. I also realize that not everyone who takes a test is going to become a paying subscriber. Their curiosity is satisfied getting the ethnicity estimate.

But what about the people who aren't satisfied by that? Here's where I think Ancestry specifically has dropped the ball. Unlike 23andMe, Ancestry has 20 *billion* genealogical records. That's a goldmine to someone who is curious and who can feel comfortable working with them. It's a goldmine that Ancestry seems to be ignoring when it comes to their DNA customers.

Ancestry seems to put their customers into two silos: one for DNA and one for more traditional research. Sure, they're happy to sell DNA kits to the more traditional genealogists and that's a fairly easy thing to do. After all, people who are already into genealogy see DNA as another tool.

But **Ancestry has done a poor job of taking people from the DNA side to the traditional side.** They have prompts like "build your tree," but what does that mean to someone who hasn't done any genealogy besides spit in a tube?

Ancestry, by and large, leaves them to flounder. They don't do a good job of showing people not only *how* to get started with traditional research, but *why* they should. There is a real disconnect.

And, as long as those two silos are disconnected, Ancestry won't be able to tap into turning a one-time customer of a \$99 kit into a paying subscriber over a period of months or years.

Each of those 16 million Ancestry DNA tests is a person.

Let's all of us — you and me — be encouraging to beginners and be that bridge between the DNA test and the traditional research. We'll all benefit from it.

# MEDLEY

## New Members, Tips & Humor

(Some items reprinted from Genealogical Publishing Company's, Amy Johnson Crow's & Eastman's Online Genealogy newsletters and related blogs, & similar sources and websites)

### Welcome to Our Newest Member Ashley Gaumond

We're happy to welcome our Society's newest member, Ashley Gaumond, who is researching ancestors with surnames that include: Watson, Cline/Kline, Kelly/Kelley, Scott/Smith (alias), Brown, Wingo, Chapman, Sumpter, Weaver/Weber, Adams, Magaw, Stokes, Christy (e), Maloney, Neumann, Lawson, Geren/Gearing, and Kirkpatrick.

She's researching these ancestors in the following States: New York, Tennessee, South Carolina (Charleston & Spartanburg Counties), Vermont (Guilford County), Massachusetts, North Carolina (various western counties), Virginia (Amelia & Prince William Co.), Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland (Talbot Co.), and New Jersey.

Countries of origin for her maternal lines with approximate time periods include: Prussia (c. 1776), Netherlands (c. 1644-1660), Belgium (Flanders, c. 1807), France (Lorraine, 1674), Ireland (northern, c. 1723-1783), England (c. 1629-1670), Scotland (pre-1750), England > Barbados > America (mid-1600s), England > Canada > U.S. (c. 1871-1891).

For her paternal lines: England (1630s), Wales? (c. 1644), Netherlands (early 1700s?), France > Canada > U.S. (1667-1891); Ireland (eastern) > Canada > U.S. (c. 1775-1868), and Scotland (pre-1750).

Ashley's DNA test showed Swedish ancestry, but she has not yet found a link. Her paternal grandmother was adopted and her biological mother's side is entirely unexplored, so cracking that mystery is a priority for her!

### Four Tips for Citing Genealogy Sources

Genealogy research without source information isn't reliable - but the process of creating source citations

can be time-consuming and confusing. Take in these tips for source citations:

**Cite the version of the source you use.** If Uncle Bob sends a photo of a family Bible page, cite the photo of the Bible. If a family history is on several digitized book websites, cite the book on the site where you found it.

**Document the source of the source.** If you use a marriage record from MyHeritage.com that was digitized from FamilySearch's microfilm copy of the original, your source citation should document each of these "steps" in the publication process.

**Note whether you're using an index or an actual record.** Source citations for information from an online index generally include the word "database" after the title of the work. Citations for online collections that include record images generally include the words "digital images."

**Use automatically generated citations as a starting point.** Some websites provide source citations for records you view. Others may include general source information for a whole collection. You can copy these citations, but check for completeness: Does it include the date you accessed it? The name on the record you're citing? Add any missing information.

### A Bit of Genealogy Humor

1. My family coat of arms ties at the back. Is that normal?
2. My family tree is a few branches short! Any help will be greatly appreciated.
3. Shake your family tree and watch the nuts fall....
4. My hobby is genealogy - and I raise dust bunnies as pets.
5. I'm not stuck, I'm ancestrally challenged.
6. I'm searching for myself. Have you seen me?
7. If only people came with pull-down menus and on-line help!
8. A family reunion is an effective form of birth control.
9. Floor: The place for storing your priceless genealogy records.

Carolyn McCulley, Editor  
KinTracks Newsletter  
421 Boros Road  
New Bern, NC 28560-8424

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION OR RENEWAL**

Name .....

Address .....

City ..... State ..... Zip .....

Email Address ..... Tel.....

**Annual Membership: \$25.00 per person; \$10.00 for additional person at same address**

Cash... Check .... Surnames you're researching .....

States/Counties researched .....Ancestor Countries of origin.....

Approximate years of immigration to U.S. .... Taken any courses in genealogy? Yes..... No.....

**Please return to: Craven County Genealogical Society**

**P.O. Box 1344, New Bern, NC 28563-1344**

**Call Nancy Perdue at 252-638-3291 for more information**

**VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME**