

2023 BLACK HISTORY MONTH VIRTUAL GENEALOGY CONFERENCE

"NO LONGER FORGOTTEN"

Saturday, February 11, 2023

10:00 AM - 1:30 PM

10:00 AM - Opening Remarks

LaJoy Y. Mosby, current National President of the Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society, Inc (AAHGS)



Intro of Keynote Speaker - Bernice Alexander Bennett



Keynote Address - Dr. Shelley Viola Murphy

"Descendants of Enslaved Communities at UVA"



Keynote Speaker: Dr. Shelley Viola Murphy

Dr. Murphy's background spans with nonprofit and local government work focused primarily on real estate, affordable housing, and fair housing discrimination issues. An avid genealogist for over 30 years, Dr. Shelley Viola Murphy, aka "familytreegirl," was born and raised in Michigan, now living in central Virginia. She conducts genealogy workshops at local, state, and national conferences. Murphy is known for her inspiring & interactive "SO WHAT" with genealogical research, along with interesting problem-solving methodology lectures such as the use of Timelines.

Murphy is also a coordinator/instructor at the Midwest African American Genealogy Institute (MAAGI) and serves on the Boards of the Library of Virginia, Albemarle, Charlottesville, and Fluvanna Historical Societies. Currently, at the University of Virginia she is the Descendant Project Research with the goal of locating descendants of the enslaved laborers who worked during the period of 1817-1865. She develops educational programs for the Center for Family History at the IAAM and holds membership in AAHGS, NGS, APG, DAR and local genealogy groups.

Dr. Murphy's personal research focuses on Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, Virginia/West Virginia, South Carolina, and Tennessee.

11:00 AM - 11:40 AM (Concurrent Sessions)



Chiquita Clark Sorrels

Since she was a teenager, Chiquita has been interested in her family history. She is originally from West Chester, PA and both her maternal and paternal families have resided in Chester County, PA for over 150 years. She is currently the President of the Montgomery County Maryland Chapter of AAHGS.

Chiquita served as an active member on the 2019 AAHGS National Conference planning committee - "*400 Years of Black History: The Struggles, Challenges and Perseverance*"; and the 2020 virtual AAHGS National Conference planning committee - "*1619 Virginia to Present Day, Correcting the National Narrative, in the Midst of Covid-19*"

Chiquita has a Master's degree in Library Science from Drexel University, a Bachelor's degree in Computer Science from the University of Maryland and is an adjunct professor at Montgomery College.

Introduction to Researching Your Family History

In this session, learn how to get started with your family research, where to access free research tools and how to organize your research findings.



Andrew J. Hochreiter

Andrew J. Hochreiter, MEd, MIS, is a genetic genealogist who manages multiple DNA surname projects and has successfully applied DNA to trace several related family branches overseas. He has over 28 years of experience in genealogical research and 12 years involved with genetic genealogy. Mr. Hochreiter instructs continuing education courses in basic and advanced genetic genealogy at Howard Community College in Columbia, MD. He is a facilitator for the genetic genealogy module of the on-line Genealogical Research Course at Boston University. Mr. Hochreiter is a great enthusiast and user of genetic genealogy as another valuable means to trace family history and solve genealogical problems.

Introduction to DNA

Genetic genealogy has emerged as an important tool for genealogists and family historians. This session will get you started on how to use DNA for genealogical research.

11:45 AM - 12:25 PM (Concurrent Sessions)



Carol Kostakos Petranek

Carol Kostakos Petranek serves as an Assistant Director of the Washington, D.C. Family History Center where she coordinates classes, conferences, and community outreach projects. She served as a Genealogy Aid at the National Archives in Washington, D.C. for ten years, and has worked with FamilySearch on several initiatives. Carol is an active member of the Greek genealogy community and teaches at local and national conferences. She also writes, edits, and publishes personal and family histories.

FamilySearch



[FamilySearch](#) is the world's largest free website for genealogy records. It is also the home of the FamilySearch Family Tree—the world's largest collaborative tree. FamilySearch works with partners such as NARA, Ancestry, Fold3 and others to access the world's records and make them available at no charge. This class will explore the many features of FamilySearch including records (indexed and images), photos, books, research wiki, webinars, the family tree, and activities for people of all ages. Learn how to find the information you need to expand your family history!



Dr. Ida Jones

Dr. Ida Jones is a native of Cambridge, Massachusetts, and a noted professional archivist and historian, award-winning author, educator, and recognized leader in the field of African American women's history. She graduated from Howard University with a bachelor's degree in News Editorial Journalism, a Master of Arts degree in Public History, and a Ph.D. in American History. Her dedication to her alma mater and to the identification, preservation, and use of personal papers and organizational records, created by African Americans and African American organizations, prompted her to accept the coveted position of Assistant Curator of Manuscripts in Howard University's Moorland Spingarn Research Center. The Moorland Spingarn Research Center is "one of the world's largest and most comprehensive repositories for the documentation of the history and culture of people of African descent in Africa, in the Americas in other parts of the world."

She is the ASALH national vice president for membership. Additionally, she is the inaugural University Archivist at Morgan State University, in Baltimore.



Black Resistance

The Association for the Study of African American Life and History - ASALH®
2023 Black History Theme "Black Resistance"

African Americans have resisted historic and ongoing oppression, in all forms, especially the racial terrorism of lynching, racial pogroms, and police killings since our arrival upon these shores.

Come hear the call to study the history of Black Americans' responses to establish safe spaces, where Black life can be sustained, fortified, and respected, with an emphasis on what some of the information might mean for genealogical/historical research.

12:30 PM - 1:10 PM (Concurrent Sessions)



Tamela Tenpenny-Lewis

Tamela is the co-founder of Preservation of African American Cemeteries, a non-profit group to identify, document and preserve African American Cemeteries. She is the recipient of the Association for Gravestone Studies (AGS); *Oakley Certificate of Merit* and *Outstanding Achievement in Preservation Advocacy Award* presented by the Historic Preservation Alliance of Arkansas through its annual Arkansas Preservation Awards. She can also be seen in the AETN documentary "*Silent Storytellers*". The Documentary explores the history, culture, importance of preserving Arkansas's cemeteries.

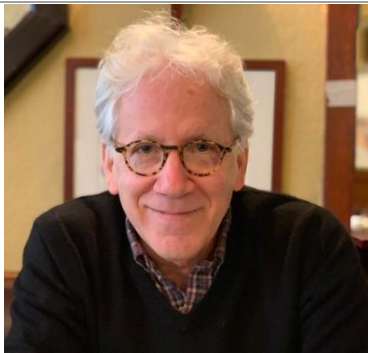
Tamela has served as the national president of AAHGS (2012-2015), a charter member and first chapter president of AAHGS-Arkansas Chapter, founded in 1997 and the recipient of the AAHGS James Dent Walker Honorary Lifetime Membership Award.

Finding the Forgotten
Through Cemetery
Preservation

For every known rural burial ground, there are at least five that have been forgotten from our collective consciousness. Where oral history once provided impressive details on the locations, size, number of individuals buried, location of family plots and names along with the history of those interred during early periods of burial, many of those oral historians now lie among them, taking with them the "unrecorded history".

The measurement of our success as cemetery preservationist has been in identifying and transcribing those that are interred and producing documents that show the existence of such. But how does one go about finding lost burial grounds that house our loved ones, forgotten from any type of written history.

This presentation provides various methods useful in finding the forgotten, writing their stories and making it possible for you to preserve your community history and cemeteries.



Will Schwartz

Will Schwarz is an independent television producer, EP, writer, and director based in Baltimore, MD. The award-winning television veteran has more than 30 years of experience creating original non-fiction programming for broadcast, government, and corporate clients. Will's work has been honored with numerous Emmy, Telly and other industry awards.

Schwarz is also the founder and President of the Maryland Lynching Memorial Project, Inc., a 501(c)(3) organization that works to advance the cause of racial reconciliation in the state by documenting the history of racial terror lynchings, advocating for public acknowledgement of these murders and working to honor and dignify the lives of the victims.

Maryland Lynching Memorial
Project



The presentation will provide a brief history of the Maryland Lynching Memorial Project (MLMP) and its work in researching and documenting the 38 racial terror lynchings known to have occurred in Maryland between 1854 and 1933. The importance of acknowledging this dark chapter in our state's history will be discussed and we will provide examples of how the legacy of lynching continues to damage and degrade our lives. The inter-relationship of MLMP to the Equal Justice Initiative (led by Bryan Stevenson) and the Maryland Lynching Truth and Reconciliation Commission will also be explained.

1:15 PM

Closing Remarks - Patricia Ford Neal



2023 free virtual conference hosted/sponsored by:

AFRICAN AMERICAN SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP (AASIG)

Frank Jenkins, Bernice Alexander Bennett, Jacqueline Tillman-Lewis

Washington DC Family History Center (WDCFHC) - Branch of the FamilySearch Library

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

Carol Kostakos Petranek, Gary Petranek

AFRO-AMERICAN HISTORICAL AND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, INC., (AAHGS)

STATE OF MARYLAND AND WASHINGTON, DC CHAPTERS

Agnes Kane Callum - Baltimore, Maryland (BAAHGS)

Noreen Goodson

Central Maryland (Columbia, MD)

LaJoy Mosby

Montgomery County, Maryland

Chiquita Clark Sorrels

Prince George's County, Maryland

Patricia Ford Neal

James Dent Walker - District of Columbia (AAHGS-DC)

Patricia Ford Neal

