And we’re open, everyone! Both our little library and North Cobb Regional opened on the same day. It’s taken a little getting used to and will no doubt take a little more, but we’re all adjusting! Thankfully, y’all have been patient and understanding as most of our collection is in storage without us, so this year should pass in a flash.
Renovation Update

And to top it all off, we’ve made a beautiful little forest out of the Great Wall of China. The microform is now out from behind the avalanche and ready for patrons and their thirst for knowledge.
Gwinnett Historical Society Event!

Imagine 19th Century Life at the Elisha Winn House

Before Restoration - early 1960s

After Restoration

2019 Winn Fair

Saturday, October 5 • 10 AM to 5 PM
908 Dacula Road, Dacula

Presented by Gwinnett Historical Society in partnership with Gwinnett County Parks & Recreation
Program Update: Civil War Research

Our own Jeff Kurtz gave his first solo program on Thursday September 19th to eight enthusiastic patrons. I’ll talk more about upcoming programs later, but this was the first of 14 planned programs that will be given while in our temporary space. Go Jeff!

CIVIL WAR RESEARCH

Thursday, September 19 @ 2 p.m.
at the West Cobb Regional Library

Are you looking to discover your genealogy during the Civil War? Come learn how to find records for your Civil War ancestors from Georgia Room staff as we review databases and materials you can use from home or at the library.

Please register for this program by calling 770-528-4699 or stopping by the West Cobb Library.
In honor of Veteran’s Day, The Atlanta History Center is having a special genealogical program on military research titled “Finding the Heroes in Your Family Tree.” The program is on Saturday, November 16 from 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Tickets are $15 for non-members, and $10 for members.
October is Georgia Archives Month! Their monthly Lunch and Learn program for October is “Researching the History of a House in the City of Atlanta.” Historian Patrick Sullivan will teach the ins and outs of learning house histories, from building permits to former residents, plus the history of neighborhoods. This program will be on Friday October 11. All Lunch and Learn programs are from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. They are completely free and no reservation is needed. The house is so pretty too!
Learn the History of Cameras and Photography!

Genealogical Society General Meeting


Discovering family trees, no matter where they are planted.

Saturday, October 19
10:00 am to 12 noon
Camera Museum
369 Macon Street
McDonough

Tour of the Camera Museum

Please join us for a tour of the Camera Museum by Scott Evans, founder. Refreshments will be provided after the meeting. The meeting is free, and all are welcome! Sponsored by the Genealogical Society of Henry and Clayton Counties, Inc.

www.henryclayfongenealogy.com
https://www.camera-museum.org/
In late August, the Federation of Genealogical Societies and the National Genealogical Society released a Memorandum of Understanding outlining the intent of the boards of both organizations to merge, by the end of 2020. This new organization will continue to go by the name of the National Genealogical Society. Get out the marriage records, everyone!

The press release issued jointly went into more detail than just the announcement. “The organizational structure of NGS will be modified to increase functions that support genealogical societies and family organizations. Digitization projects of genealogical importance such as the War of 1812 pensions will continue. The two organizations will continue to operate independently while all details of the merger are completed, no later than October 1, 2020.”

Congratulations all around!
Program List

Presented by East Cobb Library & the Georgia Room

Genealogy: An Overview
Saturday, October 5 @ 11 a.m.
at the East Cobb Library

Join us as we share some tips and tricks to get you started with your own genealogical research, including resources provided by your own library! We will also briefly review the history of American genealogy.

Presented by Powder Springs Library & the Georgia Room

Genealogy for Beginners
Monday, October 7 @ 11 a.m.
at the Powder Springs Library

Have you wanted to research your family history but aren’t sure where to start? Do you have a notable individual rumored to be in your ancestry that you want to confirm? Please join us as we review some helpful tips and tricks to get you started in genealogy.

Presented by West Cobb Library & the Georgia Room

Digitizing & Dating Old Photographs
Thursday, October 17 @ 2 p.m.
at the West Cobb Regional Library

Bring your old family photographs to share as we discuss types and dates of family pictures from the last hundred years. We will also be reviewing digitization methods used for extending the preservation of your photos. Don’t forget your magnifying glass!

Please register for this program by calling 770-528-4699 or stopping by the West Cobb Library.

Presented by Sewell Mill Library & the Georgia Room

Dating Old Photographs
Monday, October 21 @ 3 p.m.
at the Sewell Mill Library

Bring your old family photographs to share as we discuss types and dates of family pictures from the last hundred years. Don’t forget your magnifying glass!
**Program List Continued**

**Presented by Powder Springs Library & the Georgia Room**

**African American Genealogy**

Monday, November 4 @ 6:30 p.m.

Please join us as we review resources, databases, and tips that may be useful when doing African American genealogy research.

**Presented by Gritters Library & the Georgia Room**

**Genealogy Crafts**

Wednesday, November 6 @ 2 p.m. at the Gritters Library

Wonder what gifts to give for the holidays? Would you like to share your family history with your relatives in a meaningful way? Join us as we create fun crafts using family photos* and genealogical research.

*If you would like to include photographs of relatives in your crafts, please make sure to bring small copies.

**Presented by Sewell Mill Library & the Georgia Room**

**Genealogy Crafts**

Tuesday, November 12 @ 3 p.m. at the Sewell Mill Library

Wonder what gifts to give for the holidays? Would you like to share your family history with your relatives in a meaningful way? Join us as we create fun crafts using family photos* and genealogical research.

*If you would like to include photographs of relatives in your crafts, please make sure to bring small copies.

**Presented by West Cobb Library & the Georgia Room**

**Family History Through Your Recipe Book**

Thursday, November 21 @ 2 p.m. at the West Cobb Regional Library

Family recipes can fill us with nostalgia, draw us closer to each other, and help us relive traditions and rituals that have special meaning to us.

Bring your own family recipes and share your stories with us!

Please register for this program by calling 770-528-4699 or stopping by the West Cobb Library.
As a perfect segue from Jeff’s program on the Civil War, the Cobb County Genealogy Society is doing a program on Reconstruction! Come hear Emma Hamilton tell you what happened after the Civil War!
Genetic Genealogy and Privacy Follow-up

The Department of Justice has now weighed in on this debate. On September 24, they released an interim policy on forensic genetic genealogy (FGG). A more thorough and complete policy is expected next year.

As it currently stands, the policy focuses on FGG as a last resort. It is only to be used for violent crimes, only after no matches have turned up on pre-existing databases such as the FBI database and they have followed all “reasonable leads”, police must identify themselves as such when putting information on to public genealogy sites, and even then they can only use sites that have previously informed the public of how their information could potentially be used. FBI lab officials also have to suggest reasonable alternatives to genealogy sites as often as possible. The information collected is also to be treated as confidential and not kept around.

The Deputy Attorney General explains it this way. “We cannot fulfill our mission if we cannot identify the perpetrators. Forensic genetic genealogy gets us that much closer to being able to solve the formerly unsolvable. But we must not prioritize this investigative advancement above our commitments to privacy and civil liberties.”

There are of course loopholes, as there always are, but this is a good start to alleviating privacy concerns around FGG.
Last but not least… It’s time for the Census! Georgia is one of the top five states in the country that is at risk for being undercounted, which puts us at risk for under funding. The Census is offered online this year, so come in and take it in here! Fun fact: The Census Bureau will not ask for your social security number. If someone does, it is a scam. Be safe and democratic!

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