

# 2019 Black History Month Genealogy Conference

## Program Schedule

### *“Embracing Our African-American Genealogy Story”*

Saturday, February 2, 2019

**8:30AM - 9:00AM**

Conference Registration

**9:00AM**

Welcome/Opening Remarks - Chiquita Clark Sorrels

Introduction of Keynote Speaker - Jacqueline Tillman-Lewis

**Keynote Address - Ric Murphy**

**10:15AM - 12:30PM**

Noreen Goodson	<b>Genealogy for Beginners</b> (limited to 30 attendees)
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**10:15AM - 11:30AM (Concurrent sessions)**

Bernice Alexander Bennett	<b>Sons and Daughters of the U.S. Middle Passage</b>
John Ashley	<b>Black Migrations - ASALH®</b>

**11:35AM - 12:50 PM (Concurrent sessions)**

Chiquita Clark Sorrels	<b>Using Information about Death to Find Information about Lives</b>
Robyn Smith	<b>Brick Walls</b>

**LUNCH** - Bring your own fridge-free lunch; no coffee/caffeine allowed on premises.

**1:50PM - 3:05PM (Concurrent sessions)**

Andy J. Hochreiter	<b>Introduction to DNA</b> <span style="float: right;"><i>(beginner)</i></span>
Shannon Christmas	<b>How to Use DNA to Find Ancestors</b> Recommended for attendees that have already completed a DNA test and uploaded results to GEDMatch <span style="float: right;"><i>(intermediate/advanced)</i></span>

**3:10PM - 4:30PM - Final Session - Open to All**

Bernice Alexander Bennett Moderator	<b>Telling Your Story/Open Round Table Discussion</b> Francis (Frank) Jenkins - AASIG at WDCFHC Glenn A. Blackwell - AAHGS Agnes Kane Callum, Baltimore, MD LaJoy Mosby - AAHGS Central Maryland (CMC) Chiquita Clark Sorrels - AAHGS Montgomery County, MD Nathania Branch Miles - AAHGS Prince George's County, MD Linda Crichlow White - AAHGS James Dent Walker, DC
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**4:30PM - 5:00PM**

Door Prize Drawing - Noreen Goodson

Closing Remarks - Nathania Branch Miles

**SYLLABUS INFO:** All class handouts and syllabus materials are available for you to print or download to your laptop or tablet. This will give you access to all materials available for classes with provided materials. *Please note that no printed handouts will be available at the conference.*

## Ric Murphy, Keynote Speaker



**Ric Murphy**, B.S., M.U.A., S.E.F. educator, historian, noted public speaker and award-winning author of several historical publications. He has presented throughout North America, the Caribbean, Europe and Africa. Ric has served in elected and appointed positions within federal, state and local governments, and has taught and lectured at the post-secondary level. He has served as Chairman of the Board of several private and community based organizations; on numerous national, local and not-for-profit Boards of Directors; on countless Advisory Boards to community-based organizations and not-for-profits; and has

received numerous national awards for his public activism and community work. His family lineage dates to the earliest colonial periods of Plymouth, Massachusetts, and of Jamestown, Virginia. Mr. Murphy's lineage has been evaluated and accepted by several heredity societies, including the Daughters of the American Revolution; the National Society of the Sons of Colonial New England; the Sons of the American Revolution; the Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War; and the Sons and Daughters of the U. S. Middle Passage. Ric is currently the VP for History with the National organization of AAHGS.

10:15AM - 12:30PM



**Noreen Goodson** - Born and raised in Baltimore, MD; graduate of Morgan State College and Morgan State University; and elementary school teacher for 30 years in the Baltimore City Public School System. In 1981, she began researching her parents' families in Maryland, Virginia, and South Carolina. Currently the Corresponding Secretary of Baltimore's Agnes Kane Callum Chapter of AAHGS. Also a member of the Maryland Genealogical Society and of the historical societies of Maryland, Virginia, South Carolina, and Baltimore City. Currently researching the Goodsons' of Richland County, SC.

**Genealogy for Beginners**  
(limited to 30 attendees)

Beginning African American Research? - Watch Goodson hold your attention and get you inspired to really get started in depth with exploring your family history. This workshop provides novice African American researchers with some guidance, hands-on experiences and explanations concerning various aspects of researching your family's roots with emphasis on Maryland resources.

Worksheets will be distributed to attendees during this session.

10:15AM - 11:30AM (Concurrent sessions)



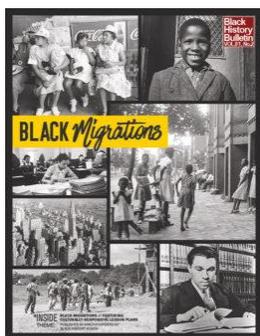
**Bernice Alexander Bennett** - A lecturer, author, and family historian researching and documenting her African American roots. She is a Citizen's Archivist with the National Archives and Records Administration in Washington, DC, where she prepares Widows' pension records for restoration and digitization for Fold3. Also, she is the producer and host of a weekly Blogtalkradio show - Research at the National Archives and Beyond. She has spoken at national and local genealogical societies, and is a coordinator and faculty for the Midwest African American Genealogy Institute.

**Sons and Daughters of the U.S. Middle Passage**

Prove lineal descent from a man, woman, or child who is of African descent and was forced into a form of slavery in the British Colonial America and the United States of America prior to the end of slavery as marked by the 13th Amendment to the United States Constitution, effective December 1865. Learn how to trace your ancestry to an enslaved person - start with yourself, document your parents, grandparents, their parents, and so on, going back as far as you can.



**John Ashley** current Secretary/Historian for the Bethel Dukes Branch, ASALH® (Association for the Study of African American Life and History) in Washington, DC and former ASALH® national board member.



**Black Migrations**

The ASALH® 2019 theme "*Black Migrations*" emphasizes the movement of people of African descent to new destinations and subsequently to new social realities. This theme focuses especially on the twentieth century through today. Come hear what John Ashley has to say about how the mission of ASALH® (...promote, research, preserve, interpret and disseminate information about Black life, history and culture to the global community) connects to this year's theme.

<https://asalh.org/asalhs-2019-theme-black-migrations/>



11:35AM - 12:50 PM (Concurrent sessions)



**Chiquita Clark Sorrels** - She has been interested in her family history since she was a teenager. 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 loves research and mysteries. Chiquita has a Bachelor's degree in Spanish from the University of Pennsylvania, a Master's degree in Library Science from Drexel University, and a Bachelor's degree in Computer and Information Science from the University of Maryland. In addition to running her own computer support company she is also an adjunct professor at Montgomery College where she teaches computer applications courses.

**Using Information about Death to Find Information about Lives**

This presentation spotlights sources and records whose main focus is on the death of one individual, but can provide information about others you may be researching. Death records contain a great deal of information that can help when you are trying to trace your family history. You might be quite surprised to find out just how much information you can glean from these records, as well as many of the other resources that are used when researching deaths.



**Robyn Smith**, Author and Genealogist has been researching her family and others for 18 years. An engineer by day, Robyn makes good use of those research and problem-solving skills in the field of genealogy. She specializes in Maryland research, African-American and Slave-era research and Court Records research. Robyn has a strong interest in promoting the documentation of families and communities, and emphasizing the use of proper genealogical standards in our research. Robyn teaches an Advanced African-American Genealogy class part-time at Howard Community College in Columbia, MD, lectures locally and has published several genealogy articles in local journals. She is also the author of a new book The Best of Reclaiming Kin and the genealogy blog "Reclaiming Kin" which can be viewed at <http://msualumni.wordpress.com>. Robyn received the AAHGS National Paul Edward Sluby, Sr./Jean Sampson-Scott Meritorious Achievement Award for 2017.

**Invisible Brick Walls**

Do You Have An Artificial Brick Wall?  
Robyn Smith will discuss the many ways that researchers often call genealogical problems "brick walls" when they really are not.

## LUNCH



**Bring your own fridge-free lunch; no coffee/caffeine allowed on premises; bottled water will be provided for all attendees.**

*Nearby eateries on Van Dusen Road include: Subway, Panda West, and Bella Indian & Italian Cuisine*

**1:50PM - 3:05PM (Concurrent sessions)**



**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.

*(beginner)*



**Shannon Christmas** - An experienced genealogist specializing in genetic, colonial American, and African-American genealogy in Virginia and the Carolinas. He serves as a 23andMe Ancestry Ambassador, administrator of The Captain Thomas Graves of Jamestown Autosomal DNA Project, and as a co-administrator of The Hemings-Jefferson-Wayles-Eppes Autosomal DNA Project. Shannon has a special interest in harnessing the power of autosomal DNA to verify and extend pedigrees, assess the veracity of oral history, and reconstruct ancestral genomes. A trained urban planning and real estate consultant, Shannon has a Bachelor of Arts in Government from Harvard University and a Masters in City Planning from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

### How to Use DNA to Find Ancestors

Learn how to resolve genealogical questions using tools in genetic genealogy's most popular 3rd party DNA database. *Strongly recommended that attendees have already completed a DNA test and uploaded results to GEDMatch*

*(intermediate/advanced)*

3:10PM - 4:30PM (Final Session) - Open to All



**Bernice Alexander Bennett**  
Moderator

### Telling Your Story

Open Round Table Discussion

Check out what the AASIG does at the WDCFHC in Kensington, MD

See and hear what AAHGS has to offer in the DMV

AAHGS 2019 National Conference:

*400 Years of Black History: The Struggles, Challenges and Perseverance*

**Francis (Frank) Jenkins - AASIG at WDCFHC**

**Glenn A. Blackwell - AAHGS Agnes Kane Callum, Baltimore, MD**

**LaJoy Mosby - AAHGS Central Maryland (CMC)**

**Chiquita Clark Sorrels - AAHGS Montgomery County, MD**

**Nathania Branch Miles - AAHGS Prince George's County, MD**

**Linda Crichlow White - AAHGS James Dent Walker, DC**



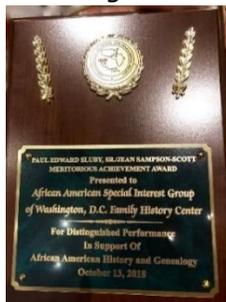
**African American Special Interest Group**



**Founded in 2010**

**Francis (Frank) Jenkins** was born in Paterson, NJ. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering and did post-graduate work in Systems Management. Frank retired from the Federal Government in 2008. He has been doing genealogy for over 35 years with a concentration in South Carolina and New Jersey research. Frank is an active member of AAHGS, co-team leader for the AASIG at the WDCFHC, and member of several national and local genealogical societies and organizations.

AASIG awarded the AAHGS Paul Edward Sluby, Sr. /Jean Sampson-Scott, Meritorious Achievement Award at the AAHGS 39<sup>th</sup> National Genealogy Conference "Tracing Our Roots in the Cradle of Liberty" October 13, 2018.



Ellen Butler, Virginia Mercer, Stephanie Trice, Bernice Bennett, Frank Jenkins, Jacqueline Tillman-Lewis, Pamela Curtis, Chiquita Sorrels





**Glenn A. Blackwell** was born and raised in Baltimore, MD. The spark of his interest in genealogy was ignited when his father gave him his grandmother's Bible and old family photos more than 25 years ago. His research encompasses seven of his eight great-grandparents, all of whom were born in the mid-Atlantic area, and their descendants. He has visited more than three dozen archives, courthouses, cemeteries, and other facilities in search of information about his family. He retired in 2011 as one of the first two promoted African-American chief officers in the Baltimore County Fire Department's history. He joined the Agnes Kane Callum BAAHGS (**B**altimore's **A**fro-**A**merican **H**istorical and **G**enealogical **S**ociety) Chapter shortly after his retirement and became the vice president of genealogy in 2016. He also volunteers at the Maryland State Archives in Annapolis.



Agnes Kane Callum (1926 - 2015), founding member of the Baltimore chapter of AAHGS; prominent genealogist who devoted years of research to Maryland's African-American history; and helped many people trace their enslaved ancestors. BAAHGS was renamed the "Agnes Kane Callum" chapter in her honor in 2007.

**Agnes Kane Callum  
Baltimore Maryland**

BAAHGS Annual Research Trip to Library of Virginia (LVA) in Richmond, VA





**Central Maryland  
(Columbia)**



Ms. **LaJoy Y. Mosby** is the president of the Central Maryland Chapter of AAHGS.

Recently retired, she is the former Deputy Project Manager of the Office of Minority Health Resource Center which is the nation's largest repository of information on minority health issues. Ms. Mosby's professional career includes experience in both public and private sectors.

She holds memberships in several professional associations including the National Black MBA Association, where she previously served in a variety of local and national leadership roles.

Ms. Mosby obtained a B.S. in Microbiology and an M.B.A. in Health Services Administration from Howard University.

Ms. Mosby has been researching her family in Alabama and Kentucky since the 1970s and is a member of the Woodford County (KY) historical society. She is also co-chair of the Public Relations subcommittee for the 2019 AAHGS National Conference planning committee - "*400 Years of Black History: The Struggles, Challenges and Perseverance*".

The Central Maryland Chapter (CMC) was chartered in 1988. It was the first chapter to be chartered by the national organization. The Chapter tagline is "*Seeking Ancestors- Seeking Ourselves*". In 2014, the Central Maryland Chapter received the AAHGS Chapter of the Year award.



Harriet Tubman Heritage Tour 2018



Chapter Meeting



**Chiquita Clark Sorrels** - Current President of the Montgomery County Maryland Chapter of AAHGS; member of the 2019 AAHGS National Conference planning committee - "400 Years of Black History: The Struggles, Challenges and Perseverance"



Chiquita was one of several AAHGS/AASIG members invited to attend the Completion of the Freedmen's Bureau Indexing Project Celebration Event at the Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture (NMAAHC) in December 2016.



**Montgomery County  
Maryland**



Jerusalem Church Sunday School  
Courtesy of Irene Curry



Frank and Violet Isreal  
Courtesy of Anita Branison



Sugarland School  
Courtesy of Suzanne R. Johnson



Joshua Duffin  
Courtesy of Sharyn Duffin

The AAHGS Montgomery County MD chapter was chartered in 2014.



**Nathania Branch Miles**, author, lecturer and graduate of the University of Maryland, in Urban and Regional Planning; certification in Women's Studies; and currently working on a master's degree in Sociology at Howard University. Nay has recently been appointed as a year's Commissioner for the Prince George's County Commission on Historic Preservation. Nay is the author of several genealogical articles on her ancestors; co-authored two books on the Images of Oxon Hill and Images of Fort Washington, Prince George's County in the Civil War: *Living on the Border*, and *Historic Prince George's: A Confluence of Cultures*.

She is an active AAHGS member both at the local and national level. Current Recording Secretary of the Prince George's County Maryland Chapter of AAHGS; National AAHGS Chapters Committee Chair; co-chair for 2019 AAHGS National Conference planning committee - "400 Years of Black History: The Struggles, Challenges and Perseverance"

The Prince George's County, Maryland Chapter of AAHGS was organized in July 1994 and chartered 28 April 1995.

- Annual Juneteenth Celebration & Seminar
- 2016 AAHGS Chapter of the Year Award
- 2013 AAHGS Chapter of the Year Award



**Prince George's County  
Maryland**



**James Dent Walker  
District of Columbia**

**Linda Crichlow White** - Born in Washington and attended public schools there before attending college (University of Cincinnati and West Virginia State College, B.S. and Howard University, M.S. in Human Ecology). Linda was a teacher and library media specialist. After retirement she worked on writing her family history, using documents and images that she found in the homes of her mother and aunts. In retirement, she speaks about local history and genealogy and volunteers at the National Museum of African American History and Culture—where there are some family objects on display.

<http://www.backtherethen.com/>

Most of Linda's genealogy research is focused on her mother's side of the family—with some Glovers, Garlands, Stevens, beginning before the Civil War and tied to Nelson, Amherst and Appomattox Counties and the City of Lynchburg in Virginia and continuing in the 20<sup>th</sup> century to Duquesne, Pennsylvania, Washington, DC and Boston. Her father's side—the Crichlows—also has an interesting story, including that of her paternal grandfather Cyril Crichlow—a native of Trinidad, BWI who served as Marcus Garvey's speechwriter and Resident Commissioner in Liberia.

Linda has been a member of the James Dent Walker DC Chapter since 2009. Social Media Committee - Website administrator - recipient of 2018 International AAHGS Book Author Award - "Back There: THEN"

In 1977, James Dent Walker was a founding member of the National Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society. The DC chapter was chartered in 1991; original name was the National Capital Area Chapter; name changed in 1994 to the James Dent Walker Chapter.



*James Dent Walker; Dunbar High School Tour; 2016 Nat'l conference; Barbara Dodson Walker*