

Forsyth County Genealogical Society PO Box 30187 Winston Salem, NC 27130 www.forsythgen.org

May 6, 2020

Forsyth County Genealogical Society members, guests, and interested parties:

Dear Friends,

First, let me express the sincere hope that you and your families are ALL safe and well!

As you are aware, due to the coronavirus pandemic coupled with the subsequent closing of the public libraries, we canceled both the April 7, 2020, and the May 5, 2020 FCGS meetings. Now, after reevaluating the current situation by listening to the recommendations from the scientific and medical community, I am making the decision to cancel the FCGS meetings for the remainder of this fiscal year. These meetings were scheduled for June 2, 2020, July 7, 2020, and August 4, 2020. This will mean that the next possible scheduled meeting will be on September 1, 2020.

There is no guarantee that we will be able resume our meetings in September, but this move does give time to watch the progression, or hopefully regression, of this virus, and we will hope for a return to our regular schedule by then. I have been keeping up to date on Governor Cooper's phasing-in plan for resuming social activity, and even if everything goes smoothly in the three planed phases, I don't believe we need to subject any of our attendees to group gatherings until it is PROVEN that such gatherings are safe.

As our members may have noted, we have only printed one edition of the *Journal of the Forsyth County Genealogical Society*, Volume 38, which was mailed in January. We have been unable to print, compile and mail any additional editions, and have put on hold any future printings through the

remainder of this fiscal year, which ends August 31, 2020. Due to this interruption in both our monthly programs and Journal publication, we are going to extend any paid memberships for this year to cover the 2020-2021 fiscal year. Therefore, if your dues are paid current for this year, you are now automatically covered through August 31, 2021.

Our editor, Darla Johnson, wishes to let everyone know that she continues to work on articles that will appear in future editions our Journal, when publication is once again possible. She does hope that you will use this home-bound time to work up stories about research you have done, or are currently doing, that she can print in the Journal. Send articles for the Journal to the e-mail address linked to our website: forsythgensoc@gmail.com.

Bill Ewalt, our vice president and person in charge of the FCGS volunteer program in the North Carolina Room located in the Main Branch of the Forsyth County Public Library, has advised us that the North Carolina Room is manning a Virtual Genealogist on Zoom. Individuals can call 336-703-3070 for an appointment; appointments are for 30 minutes. Times are available Monday through Friday from 10 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. This is an excellent opportunity for us to attack our "Brick Walls."

It is my sincere hope that by September the Forsyth County Genealogical Society will be able to return to a normal schedule. Keep in mind that any decisions I make regarding these meetings is with your, and your fellow attendees, wellbeing in mind. As president of our society, it is my responsibility to choose the path that I feel is the safest for all concerned. These decisions are in no way easy ones, and I appreciate your understanding.

Please regularly check our website (Forsythgen.org) as well as our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/groups/136697763030901/), to stay updated about FCGS schedules and events.

Thank you for your continued support of the Forsyth County Genealogical Society! I hope that you all stay safe and healthy, and I sincerely hope to see you in September.

Terri Thrailkill President, Forsyth County Genealogical Society