

2025 GCGSI MEETINGS, PROGRAMS, EVENTS

Items on this schedule are subject to change.

January Monthly Meeting - Saturday, January 18, 2025 (Annual Meeting)

One Family's Journey from Charost, France to Ellijay, Georgia

Speaker: Ellen Canup Hale, daughter of GCGSI and First Families of Gilmer County Charter Member

Lillie Evelyne Anderson Canup

Gilmer County Library Lower Level - 2:00 p.m.

Program Description - The lineage and history of Ellijay, Georgia's Chastain Family beginning in Charost, France

February Monthly Meeting - Saturday, February 15, 2025

The Whitaker Family of Gilmer County

Speaker: Dennis Stewart, author and First Families of Gilmer County member

Gilmer County Library Lower Level - 2:00 p.m.

Program Description: The lineage and history of Gilmer County's Whitaker Family

March Monthly Meeting - Saturday, March 15, 2025

You Can Do It! Gravestone Cleaning Made Simple

Speakers: Rebecca Amerson, Susan Noles, Beverly Hill Ratcliff, GCGSI members

Gilmer County Library Lower Level - 2:00 p.m.

Program Description - Learn how to start at the beginning to clean your family gravestones using just a few tools you probably already have at home, like a soft dry brush to remove grass clippings or fallen leaves. Learn some great tips like adding bamboo skewers to your cemetery toolbox or how to use tinfoil to read what you once thought were unreadable markers. Walk through a few simple steps to feel confident in do-no-harm techniques that will allow you to pay your respects to family that has gone on before. The final step includes how Arlington keeps their veteran markers in perfect condition. You will leave with a handout of do's & don'ts and an invitation to attend a hands-on workshop in a local cemetery this summer. It's a process, and you can do it....and you should do it!

Library Appreciation Week - Library Staff Appreciation Luncheon

Tuesday, April 8, 2025 – 12:00-200 pm.

National Library Week: April 6-12

For a Richer, Fuller Life, Read.

Gilmer County Library Lower Level - 12:00 noon

Event Description - Gilmer County Library Staff will be feted with a luncheon to show our appreciation for all they do for GCGSI. This activity is not open to the full membership or the public.

April Monthly Meeting - Saturday, April 19, 2025

GCGSI and GCHSI Combined Meeting

Welcome to The Tabor House

Speakers: Doug Piette, GCHSI President and Judy Piette, GCHSI Secretary

Gilmer County Library Lower Level - 2:00 p.m.

Program Description - History of the Tabor Family and The Tabor House Historical Museum with virtual tour

May Monthly Meeting - Saturday, May 17, 2025

Food is Love: Our Ancestors' Recipes

Speakers: GCGSI Members in a "Show and Tell" Program

Gilmer County Library Lower Level - 2:00 p.m.

Program Description - Stories and copies of recipes passed down from our ancestors with samples of the food created from the recipes provided at the end of the presentations

~~**June Monthly Meeting - No monthly meeting**~~

June Workshop/Field Trip - Date & Time TBD

Grave Marker Cleaning

Facilitators: Rebecca Amerson, Susan Noles, Beverly Hill Ratcliff

Ellijay Cemetery-Date & Time TBD

Workshop Description - Learn how to clean grave markers with a demonstration, then through hands-on learning. A list of items needed will be provided via email after RSVP from attendees.

~~July Monthly Meeting~~ - No monthly meeting

July Workshop - Date & Time TBD

FamilySearch.org Encore

Facilitator: Rebecca Amerson, GCGSI member

Gilmer County Library's Upper Level Meeting Room -Time TBD

Workshop Description - A hands-on workshop using FamilySearch.org to research family history and lineage

August Monthly Meeting/Event - Saturday, August 16, 2025

Harvest Luncheon

Gilmer County Library Lower Level - 12:00 noon

Event Description - GCGSI members and their families celebrate the Harvest Season with GCGSI providing the protein, beverages, and paper goods and members bringing side dishes and/or desserts to share. Door prizes will be given.

September Monthly Meeting - Saturday, September 20, 2025

The Family Tree Doesn't Always Fork: The Reece and Weaver Families of Gilmer County

Speakers: Zachary Walls and Sheila Reece Walls, First Families of Gilmer County members

Gilmer County Library Lower Level - 2:00 p.m.

Program Description - The lineage and history of Gilmer County's Reece and Weaver families beginning in Wales

~~October Monthly Meeting~~ - No monthly meeting due to Apple Festival

November Monthly Meeting - Saturday, November 15, 2025

Election and appointment of 2026 GCGSI Board.

Creation: Billy Roper Shares Family Stories and Art

Speaker: Billy Roper, folk artist

Gilmer County Library Lower Level - 2:00 p.m.

Program Description: Folk Artist Billy Roper shares stories about his family history while creating art in real time

Gilmer County Library Event: November, 2025-January, 2026, Dates & Times TBD

Festival of Trees

Event Description: An annual event at the Gilmer County Library when organizations decorate Christmas trees for display through December. GCGSI designs and decorates a tree for display in the Family Research Room.

December Monthly Meeting/Event - Saturday, December 13, 2025 (Changed to 2nd Saturday in December)

GCGSI Holiday Luncheon and Installation of 2026 Board

Gilmer County Library Lower Level - 12:00 noon

Program Description: GCGSI members and their families' luncheon celebrating the Holiday Season with GCGSI providing the protein, beverages, and paper goods and members bringing side dishes and/or desserts to share. 2025 GCGSI Board members will be installed. Door prizes will be given.