

2021 Education Committee Annual Report

During the year we offered 30 classes, which included a series, 1 workshop and 3 seminars and 10 programs. All were presented virtually

The DNA Series was begun, but due to the presenter's health it had to be discontinued after 4 classes.

We started the year with 3 Special Interest Groups: Family Tree Maker, German, and Genetic Genealogy. In September we were able to restart the Irish Group. In October the Newbie Interest Group was started as a follow up to Genealogy Week.

We increased the Brickwall Round Table to every other month and started the Let's Talk Genealogy Round Table on the opposite month.

Genealogy Week was again held in September with 13 classes scheduled. The DNA Class had to be cancelled. The week included The General Member Meeting with a New Member Shout Out. The week ended with a full day Seminar on Immigration.

We initiated three hour workshops as a new event level.

We experimented with evening classes and round tables with mixed results.

The Committee identified education tracks for Beginners, Intermediate and Advanced levels.

The Education Director Position Description and Plan were revised.

Things We Learned

From evaluations and comments made from members and other attendees, they do not want full day virtual seminars. Attendance at seminars decreased over past years (33, 34, and 30).

Events done virtually have increased out of state and country membership.

Based on evaluations received, attendees self-identified their level of experience for the classes as 47 @ Beginner Level, 107 @ Experienced/Intermediate Level and 2 @ Advanced Level.

We need to provide Beginning Genealogy classes to start new researchers on the right path more often than just during Genealogy Week.

Having a seminar immediately after Genealogy Week is exhaustive to Hosts and Co-hosts.

Committee needs more volunteers to share in the workload.