

Live Class Descriptions:

9:00-9:30 AM Reed Barker, Keynote Speaker: Harry Potter Discovers Find-Take-Teach

Each of us, individually, have ancestors. Even Harry Potter, with all his magical powers, did not understand this fully until he found his mother and father, and others, behind him, helping him, as he fought the greatest struggle of his life against evil. Our ancestors, like Harry's, are also behind us helping fight the evils of procrastination, apathy, and distraction from finding these loved ones and records of them verifying their existence. They want us to be with them some day in the greatest family of all, our Father's family. He wants us to come live with Him and live as He lives. We must gather the records of our ancestors and other tools such as DNA available to us to help us in our quest. We even have their help. Some may call these helps serendipity or coincidence, but to those who are engaged in this family history work know that there is something different, something more powerful than just the feeling of a "detective" finding more evidence. This is a work that is powerful because of their help.

9:40-10:40 AM Mardy Smith & Elena Capson: Basic Indexing and A Introduction to Web Indexing (short presentation & lab - bring your laptop or tablet if you want)

You'll see how to find the new FamilySearch Web Indexing system, find instructions and field helps, download batches and transfer the information from the records to the program so it can be uploaded to FamilySearch Historical Records and make it easier to find information about our ancestors. After a demonstration, the class will move to the computer lab where you can use your own laptop or tablet or an available computer so you can have a hands on experience. The Record Hints (similar to Ancestry's Shaky Green Leaves) you find for your ancestors on FamilySearch Family Tree are the result of well indexed records. [Beginner]

9:40-10:40 AM Jennifer Pedersen: Genealogy 101, & Including Using your Public Library

Interested in finding out about your family's history, but don't know where to start? Learn the basics of genealogy and find out what resources the library has to help you in your quest. Genealogy is one of the most intensive types of research you can undertake, but you're not alone! Your local library is a great source of free, accessible information to help trace your family's history. Join Jenny Pedersen of Deschutes Public Library to learn about available resources and tips for getting the most out of your library card. [Beginner]

9:40-10:40 AM George Larson: What's In a Name, or How Do You Spell That, Again?

Presenter assumes the attendee can navigate a number of websites, even unfamiliar ones, to look for information. He will talk about variations of spelling of names, emphasizing that there are many variations, and that websites differ in their ability to recognize them. And, why and how often family names can change. Also will try to build confidence in viewing records in foreign languages and wild handwriting, to show that you don't have to know the language, nor be a handwriting expert, to recognize things like names and dates. [Intermediate]

10:50-11:50 AM Vaunell Temple: Family Search Basics - "I signed up, now where do I go?"

Learn what is available on each page in FamilySearch & Family Tree. [Beginner]

10:50-11:50 AM Peggy Clarke: Google as a Powerful Genealogy Tool

Use google search, google maps, google images and google books as a powerful tool in finding your ancestors and finding out about them. Knowing the search parameters on google will make your family search easier and in some cases, possible. [Intermediate]

10:50-11:50 AM Glen Roberts: Research Logs and Tables

Research logs and tables help us ensure that we stay on the right track, identify where we have already been, identify possibly the best resources to check next, and know where we are wanting to go in our family research. [Intermediate]

12:50 - 1:50 PM Vaunell Temple: "How do I use the many tools in FamilySearch & Family Tree?"

The Gallery, Quick Attach, Source Box, Merging Duplicates and Research [Beginner+]

12:50 - 1:50 PM Peggy Clarke: Organizing Your Paper and Digital Files

Any system will work...but a system is necessary. Come get some ideas about how to keep it all where you can get to it. [Beginner+]

Prerecorded RootsTech Presentations:

8:30 - 9:00 AM Ce Ce Moore: RootsTech Keynote

This DNA expert speaks of genetic memory and gives us fascinating examples of how our ancestors can affect us today in our traits, behaviors and choices.

9:40-10:40 AM Crista Cowan: Don't Just Be a Searcher, Be a Researcher

Crista Cowan, Corporate Genealogist at Ancestry, also known as the Barefoot Genealogist, discusses the difference between searching for and researching your ancestors [Beginner+]

10:50-11:50 AM Mary Kircher Roddy: Censational Census Strategies

Are you finding everyone you are looking for in the census? Learn about how to find missing people and how to get the most out of census records, as well as mistakes to avoid. [Intermediate]

12:50 - 1:50 PM Diahna Southard: DNA: The Glue that Holds Families Together

Understand what DNA is and how to use DNA testing to document your research. [Intermediate]

12:50 - 1:50 PM Sunny Morton: Comparing Ancestry, MyHeritage, FamilySearch, Findmypast

See a side by side comparison of features and records available at Ancestry, Findmypast, FamilySearch and MyHeritage. [Beginner+]