



# FAMILY TIES



## SANDY GRANITE FAMILY HISTORY CENTER NEWSLETTER

### Director's Message Glen Steenblik



As one year draws to a close and another begins, it is a good time to reflect on where we have been and where we would like to be in the many different aspects of our lives. 2016 has been a terrific year of activity, filled with much success at our Family History Center. There have been months where we have received over a thousand visits, with "first time" visitors showing up almost each and every week. Hundreds of individuals have come and been rewarded for their diligent efforts, especially among our youth. Miracles have taken place, windows and doors opened, allowing many to find missing relatives and take their names to the temple for their ordinance work to be completed.

The uniting and strengthening of family bonds and relationships on both sides of the veil is taking place. Truly, the hearts of the fathers are being turned to the children and the hearts of the children to their fathers (Malachi 4:6). I give a tremendous "THANK YOU" to the myriad of volunteers and support staff who have made 2016 such a success. Our Family History Center is being watched by LDS FamilySearch and looked to as a model by others.

Looking forward to 2017, I invite each one of us to pause at some time in the coming week

for a few minutes and ponder or reflect on what goals you might set for yourself in family history work for the coming year. What would you like to discover or accomplish? Have you felt any promptings about a specific ancestor? Is there a particular family line, ideas, or impressions you have had a feeling about that you ought to pursue?

For some it may be the researching of family names to take to the temple or to complete the work for the ancestors whose cards we have in our possession. For others, it may be an indexing goal. Some may choose to progress on the scanning of photos or important documents, work on personal or parents' history, or long overdue journaling of life events. Whatever promptings you may feel, let's best get on with it.

The scripture, "For of him unto whom much is given much is required," comes to mind (D&C 82:3). We have been given many resources to help make our searching easier. New tools and technology are being rolled out all the time to assist us in our quest to Find-Take-Teach.

May we now go forth and DO.

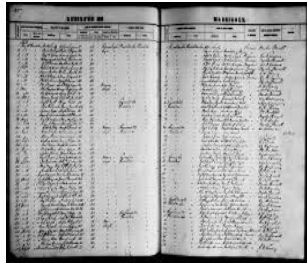
If you can't find your relative in an index or record with his actual last name, try searching for him listed with his middle name as his last name.

(Source: Michael John Neill, *Genealogy Tip of the Day*, 15 December 2016)

## Five Things to Do with Every Record

Liz Kennington

Whether you are an experienced researcher or just getting started, there are at least five things you can do with every record you



encounter. Just finding the record and attaching it to your tree isn't enough. Try walking through these five steps with your records.

① **Source the record.** This may seem obvious but you might be surprised how often individuals don't source the record they've found. You need to know where that source comes from and who supplied it. Every source should be evaluated for its information value. Not knowing who supplied the information makes a big difference. Your crazy aunt may have given you the info, and now it's up to you to decide whether you can trust her. Always source that information.

② **Examine the image, not just the index.** While we are often just given the index to deal with, you should always seek to find the original image wherever possible. Not everything you are looking for will be recorded in the index. There are always clues on the image if you think to look at it.

While searching for my great uncle Sven in census records, I came across the 1920 US Census in Utah. I examined the image and was surprised to find that his wife had two children, both of which had died. I found both of those death certificates and the

burial information. We were able to have those children sealed to their parents. I also noted that he was working as a carpenter which helped to confirm that I was looking at the correct person.

③ **List all the points of genealogical importance.** It is amazing how much better you can understand the information you are looking at if you will write down all the information you find there. Invariably, you will see something that you might otherwise have missed. Or, you understand better the information you have found. It doesn't matter how insignificant you think that information may be. If you make assumptions about the information, also make that note. When you go back to that source, you can see the information that was contained in it without having to examine the source again.

④ **What questions do you have?** I have yet to find a source which didn't leave me with some questions, either to continue researching or to wonder why something was recorded in a particular way. Make a list of those questions in your genealogy software or in a Word file. Then when you go back to the library or other sources, you have your research questions ready.

⑤ **File it so you can find it later.** How many of us would be hard pressed to pull out a source that we found five years ago? One year? Last week? Whatever system you choose to track your sources, be sure that it is one that works well for you. Perhaps include it in your notes file of your software. Make your system work for you rather than against you.

(Source: Ancestry Annie, 29 October 2013)

## RootsTech 2017



Have you registered for RootsTech 2017 yet? There is still time to register and enjoy the benefits of learning about the world of genealogy. There will be fabulous speakers and hundreds of great classes to appeal to everyone.

The newest keynote speaker to be announced is genetic genealogist, CeCe Moore. She will be the featured keynote speaker on Saturday, February 10. Don't know what a genetic genealogist is? Come hear all about the rewards and challenges that come with a bona fide family history detective that used DNA test results to discover hidden truths and family relationships.

Come hear fascinating and touching stories to illustrate how DNA and traditional family history are coming together in unprecedented ways to help individuals, especially adoptees, make family connections never before possible.

Still looking for reasons to attend? The star-studded lineup of keynote speakers, including CeCe Moore, is designed to reach all interests and ages. Jonathan and Drew Scott, the Property Brothers; Buddy Velastro, the Cake Boss; LaVar Burton, Star Trek's Jordy; Vai Sihakema, former NFL player; Kalani Sitake, current BYU football coach; President and Sister Nelson: These are just a few of the speakers lined up for RootsTech 2017.

Registration and further information is available at <https://www.rootstech.org/>. As always, Family Discovery Day is completely free, and you can register for up to 10 people. All sessions of RootsTech 2017 are held at the Salt Palace in downtown Salt Lake City, 8-11 February 2017. Learning tracks are available for all levels of experience with family history work, including a Getting Started track.

Plan now to attend and learn how you can better search for your ancestors.

### Youth "Light the World"

The youth coming to the Sandy Family History Center chose to accept the "Light the World" challenge this past December by indexing records.

With only 3 weeks (10 days) to index instead of the entire month, they were able to index 2193 records! What a great contribution they have made to the records on FamilySearch.

While the youth made a great contribution to the indexing effort, there is always more that can be done. If you have not tried indexing and would like to learn how, join us at the Center for an indexing class on Wednesday, 18 January.

#LIGHT *the*  
WORLD  
In 25 Ways.  
Over 25 Days.



## Class Schedule – Winter 2017

### About our classes

Beginning and Intermediate classes will be taught at the Sandy Granite Family History Center beginning January 17, 2017. They are repeated on different days and times by different instructors to accommodate various schedules. Come when you can but please come and expand your knowledge that will help you in your family history journey. All classes are 1 hour!

We have knowledgeable instructors and a well-equipped center. Our classes are hands on, workshop format. Classes will be taught using *The Family History Guide*, an online learning tool.

### Class Descriptions

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Title</u>
Tues, Jan 17	11:00 am	Family Tree Navigation
Thurs, Jan 19	8:00 pm	Family Tree Navigation (repeat)
Sat, Jan 21	10:00 am	Family Tree Navigation (repeat)

This is a **Beginning class** that will help you get comfortable with navigating your family tree in FamilySearch, including viewing details for your ancestors and finding ancestors quickly in your tree.

Wed, Jan 18	11:00 am	Indexing Class
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Get started with creating index entries for record batches to help others research more effectively. Learn to set indexing goals and continuously improve your indexing skills.

Tues, Jan 24	11:00 am	Using Family Tree
Thurs, Jan 26	8:00 pm	Using Family Tree (repeat)
Sat, Jan 28	10:00 am	Using Family Tree (repeat)

This is a **Beginning class** exploring alternate views in your tree (fan chart, portrait, descendency), as well as updating information and adding new ancestors to your tree.

Wed, Jan 25	11:00 am	Research Class
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This is an **Intermediate class**. Come and learn the keys to getting started with your own family research. This includes organizing your research materials, finding research strategies that work for you, and solving problems so you can extend and improve your research.

Tues, Jan 31	11:00 am	Sourcing and Merging Records
Thurs, Feb 2	8:00 pm	Sourcing and Merging Records (repeat)
Sat, Feb 4	10:00 am	Sourcing and Merging Records (repeat)

This is a **Beginning class** learning how to add sources to an ancestor's entry and helping others see the evidence for the dates or other information that exist there. We will also learn how to solve duplicate entries by merging records for ancestors who have been added over time to Family Tree.

Wed, Feb 1	11:00 am	Search Techniques
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This is an **Intermediate class**. Come and learn how to search records online, including Google searches, and how to find the information you need in the records you browse. Also get an

introduction to using catalogs, books, and periodicals in libraries to expand your family history reach.

**RootsTech 2017 February 9-11  
No Classes**

Tues, Feb 14      11:00 am      Find and Prepare Temple Names  
 Thurs, Feb 16      8:00 pm      Find and Prepare Temple Names (repeat)  
 Sat, Feb 18      10:00 am      Find and Prepare Temple Names (repeat)  
 This is a **Beginning class** exploring how to find and prepare temple names.

Wed, Feb, 15      11:00 am      Indexing Class (repeat)  
 Get started with creating index entries for record batches to help others research more effectively. Also learn to set indexing goals and continuously improve your indexing skills.

Tues, Feb 21      11:00 am      Making Memories  
 Thurs, Feb 23      8:00 pm      Making Memories (repeat)  
 Sat, Feb 25      10:00 am      Making Memories (repeat)  
 This class will explore how to gather your memories, organize your photos and documents that you will upload to Family Search. Also learn skills for interviewing living relatives to add their memories to yours.

Tues, Feb 28      11:00 am      Uploading Memories  
 Thurs, Mar 2      8:00 pm      Uploading Memories (repeat)  
 Sat, Mar 4      10:00 am      Uploading Memories (repeat)  
 This class will provide instruction of how to tag and upload digital photos to FamilySearch so they can be shared with others. We will also learn how to upload digital documents and stories about ancestors.

**The Family History Guide  
News**

We have been privileged to experience the inception and growth of The Family History Guide at our family history center over the past couple of years. This resource has proven to be a great aid to all of us as we explore our family trees.

Just this week The Family History Guide has been linked from LDS.org in an article discussing how to log in to FamilySearch.org. To read the article, go to LDS.org. Click on “Families and Individuals” on the top left of the page.

This should bring up a banner on the left side of the page. Select “Home and Family.” Another banner on the side will appear and select “Family History.” Again select “My Family History” from the choices given.

This page will have several options. Choose “Learn to Use FamilySearch.org.” The first option, “How Do I Sign In to FamilySearch.org?”, refers you to The Family History Guide, Project 1, Goal 1, Choice A. If you click on the link, it will take you directly to The Family History Guide.



## The Visitor from Spirit Prison Richard Garff



The Sandy Alta View Stake has some very dedicated family history consultants. Brother Doug Springmeyer has developed an incredibly inspired process of introducing members to the blessings of performing this great work for their ancestors. His technique of introducing family history with **success in mind** includes, with the member's permission, finding one of their ancestors who is in need of temple work.

Brother Springmeyer arrives at the individual's home dressed in his prison garb with the name of the ancestor on his outfit. Rather than providing a temple ready name to the member, he spends time in their home teaching the member the way to find the ancestor's name. Along with that, he teaches how to reserve the name or share it with the Temple.

In the above picture, Brother Springmeyer is teaching me, Richard Garff, how he found the ancestor for me that needs temple ordinances completed. Not only did he teach me how to find the ancestor, but he also demonstrated how to verify, check for duplications, and make sure that the work

was properly done. In addition, he provided several names that need further research and verification for me to follow up and complete.

Recently, Brother Springmeyer provided a very engaging training session, held at the FHC, for our stake's family history consultants. It was amazing to see how we could all help those around us better enjoy the blessings of family history work.

To subscribe to *Family Ties*,  
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Visit our website for updates,  
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