



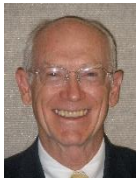
FAMILY TIES



SANDY GRANITE FAMILY HISTORY CENTER NEWSLETTER

Director's Message

Glen Steenblik



Roots Tech 2018, the world's largest genealogy gathering, was once again amazing and inspiring. Many of us were able to participate in-person or on-line. The Leadership Session, informative individual breakout sessions, Discovery Day, the multitude of exhibits, along with the personal connections made, were all helpful and motivational in both temporal and spiritual ways.

What a joy it was to experience the video presentation shared by President Dallin H. Oaks, which highlighted youth and families from our very own Family History Center. The presentation clearly demonstrated that when engaged in this sacred work, our youth feel a "transforming power" with an "almost instantaneous joy and increased confidence." President Oaks: "They become more connected to their families. They no longer feel so alone. They begin to feel a celestial kinship. They learn what it means to feel the Spirit."

Sister Kristen Oaks added, "Family History has eternal significance in the life of each person you serve, but it can also have very immediate blessings in the life of the person performing the work." I would assure each of you that these

blessings hold true for young and old alike. We were reminded by President Oaks, "If you want a happier family, retell family stories." He added, "Those who search out their ancestors' actions and words will receive strength and direction in their own lives."



I have personally felt this to be true this past month in learning more about some of my relatives and ancestors through on-line searches, which have strengthened my connection to them. I loved looking at photos of my father while he served in the US Marine Corps and was touched in reading a heartfelt handwritten letter sent to him by his father, my grandfather, at the close of WWII.

May we each move valiantly forward utilizing the new approach: "DISCOVER – GATHER – CONNECT," that our personal conversion will be more firmly rooted so to withstand the turbulence and challenges which lie ahead.

Spilt Up When One Parent Died?

If you've lost children in a family, the reason may be because one of the parents died. The surviving parent may have been unable to care for the children by him/herself. Look at relatives to find the children or with neighbors nearby as a hired laborer, housekeeper, apprentice. Children may also have simply run away!
[Source: Michael John Neill, 11 Mar 2018]

Passport Treasures

Did your ancestor have a passport? You might be surprised at how much information you can glean from both the application and the passport itself. What treasures can you discover if you are lucky enough to find either the application and/or a passport of an ancestor?

- * Name of applicant
- * Birthdate or age
- * Birthplace
- * Date of application or issuance of passport
- * Marital status
- * Father's or husband's name, birth date or age, birthplace, residence (Remember if a woman traveled with either her father or husband, she was not required to have her own passport. She was, however, included in the application. Passports issued to women under their legally preferred name didn't come into existence until the late '20s and early '30s.)
- * Wife's name
- * Date of immigration
- * Date of naturalization and where and what court
- * Ship information
- * Possible information about children and other relatives
- * Occupation
- * Current residence and length of residency
- * Destination and reason for travel
- * Physical description (With no photograph this may be the only hint of what they looked like.)
- * Photograph (Required after December 21, 1914.)



You can access both applications and passports at the U.S. National Archives (NARA) under Passport Applications,

<https://www.archives.gov/research/passport>. You can also read on the NARA website about the history of passports, types, limitations, and how to access the microfilms of registers and indexes. The collection covers Oct. 1795 – Mar. 1925. The U.S. Department of State has passport applications from Apr. 1925 to the present. What kinds of information can you find about your ancestors on either an application or passport?

Passports were originally valid for two years or less, so you should research several different



years covering the individual's entire lifetime. Multiple applications may provide conflicting information but each application provides clues to research that person.

Passports were recommended but not required for many years. Exceptions include August 19, 1861, to March 17, 1862, during the Civil War; May 22, 1918, until the formal termination of World War I in 1921, by treaties. Passports have been required since June 21, 1941. Aliens were generally ineligible for passports. Usually, the U.S. government only issued passports to U.S. citizens.

[Source: ancestorhunt.com]

Own Your Story Part 2

Last month we talked about some ideas presented by Angie Lucas in a FamilySearch blogpost, outlining strategies for writing your own story. [See

March 2018, *Family Ties*, Pg. 5.] Here are more of her ideas about writing your own story.

Make a list of the stories to tell. If you followed along with the #52 Stories, you already have a “list” of possible stories to tell. Look over those ideas you generated and decide which of all those stories you want to elaborate or develop further. You might also add to those stories, anecdotes you find yourself telling frequently. Do they involve your family members or others that you have shared friendship with over the years?

What frequently stops people from doing any writing is a “beginning.” Where do I start? I don’t have a clever opening for my story. It doesn’t matter where you start in telling your story, **just start!** The computer has made it very easy to write, and then go back and edit what you’ve written. You can easily insert additions or even take out parts of the story that don’t fit. You don’t necessarily remember your life in order, so don’t feel like you have to write your story in order.

One of my favorite exercises I used with my students were writing prompts. **Writing prompts** can be as easy as looking at a treasured object and thinking about what makes it a treasure. What about photo albums? You may have pictures of family and events that could be developed into a story about your life. One such photo for me was a picture of all my Larson cousins at my grandparents’ home. Several of those cousins I had



never met before because they lived in Washington state. I could write about that experience and the “new” cousins I met that day.

Another treasure I have is the Swedish hymnal my great-grandmother brought with her to America. It even has the name of the missionary who baptized her in the front. I never met this grandmother so this is special to me. I remember by dad telling us how frustrated she became whenever he visited her because he liked to take apart things to find out how they worked, which included her prized clock. My stories about her and what she passed on to my family can be spurred on by that hymnal.

One of the writing tools I tried to stress to my students was **allowing your writing to rest**, much like letting bread rest before actually forming rolls or loaves. When you walk away from your writing and allow your subconscious mind time to work through the project, you see more clearly those parts of your story that need work. You’ll be surprised what ideas come to you if you allow your writing some time to “marinate” on its own.

If you’re writing stories that also involved other people in your life who are still alive,



gather memories from them as well. If you were young during a particular event, older siblings or cousins can help round out the details you have either forgotten or didn’t know about. If you ask your siblings about your parents, each one of them has memories of different events

that help contribute to the whole picture of that parent. I am next to the youngest in my family, so asking older siblings about my parents will help me get a better picture of them.

Next month we will finish sharing Angie's ideas for owning your own story.

[Source: Angie Lucas, FamilySearch Blogpost, 3 January 2018]

RootsTech Online

Liz Kennington



If you were lucky enough to attend all the days of RootsTech in person, you were most probably richly fed. For those of us who were unable to attend, the online options were satisfying and filled the need this year. I was able to watch all keynote addresses and found what was offered to be moving and well worth my time.

Thursday morning Brandon Stanton shared his story about how he got involved in the lives and stories of thousands of New Yorkers. The interesting thing he shared was that once he posted pictures, an interest was born; but when he added short stories about the people or their story about their lives, interest soared. Pictures weren't enough for his followers; they wanted the stories that went with the pictures. Once stories were added, the subjects of his pictures became real people. It just supported the idea that your pictures are good, but the stories are what people really want.

Scott Hamilton gave a very emotional presentation on Friday morning. I was watching the presentation while eating breakfast, and my husband soon joined me. Hamilton's story was touching, and his life is certainly an inspiration for all of us. Several things he shared brought out his philosophy about our past. He said that we should celebrate and honor our past. Without our past, our present has no meaning, and our future is worthless. He talked about several men and women who have influenced him in making him who he is today. While he is adopted, he never looked at that as if it were a bad thing.

Saturday morning included presentations by Natalia Lafourcade and Henry Lewis Gates, Jr. Both speakers shared their family stories and the emotions they felt were evident. Lafourcade knew little about her heritage, but FamilySearch had found several stories about her family to share with her. There was a family story she had been told about a French pirate in her ancestry which was clarified for her: no pirate, but definite French heritage. Gates was able to share his ancestry story since he is heavily involved in family history work. His use of DNA has helped thousands connect with ancestors. Of special interest in his presentation was a project that he has piloted with middle school kids. He showed a video of the project which combines the science of DNA and discovering family history to help kids make connections in knowing who they are.



Saturday afternoon's Family Discovery Day presentation by President and Sister Oaks spotlighted how family history can become relative in the lives of our families, and the value which this work has to both youth and adults. This was an especially interesting presentation because it included a video spotlight on our Family History Center's involvement with the youth.

On the whole it was well worth watching the keynote presentations. You can watch all of these speakers and several other sessions from each day of the conference at <https://www.rootstech.org/>.

Plan now to attend next year's RootsTech conference, 27 February- 2 March 2019.

RootsTech 2018 Videos

If you were unable to attend RootsTech 2018, you can now view selected class recordings by going to <https://www.rootstech.org/rootstech-2018-videos> and selecting the day you would like to view. Once you click on the day, you can see which sessions are available for viewing. Scroll down the page and you can also access the LDS sessions of RootsTech.



Of special interest is the Family Discovery Day General session which was presented by President and Sister Oaks. They talked about youth doing family history work, and the youth from our center were featured in their presentation. There are 9 videos to choose from.

Family History Activities Willowcreek Stake

This month's activities from the Willowcreek Stake involve visiting family members and non-relatives to glean stories about your family and theirs.

① Go visit an older living family member and have them tell you stories of their life. Record them telling the stories, then afterward type the stories up and give them to family members.

② Go visit a shut-in person or someone in a rest home who is not a relative. Take a



treat to the. Have them talk about their life and tell you stories. Write down one of the stories that they told you and give the transcript to them to have for their personal history.

③ Go visit an older relative for an afternoon; take them for a ride to visit somewhere significant to them. Bring a treat. Have them tell stories. Write those stories down. Have them show you their pictures.

British History Online

Have you discovered the British History Online website yet? If not, you may want to explore this website founded in 2003, <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/>. Once you follow the link, then click on each section and explore what is offered. I put in one of my family names and hundreds of references came up. Now I have to see if those records found actually are my

family line. Here is the description found on the homepage.



“British History Online is a digital library of key printed primary and secondary sources for the history of Britain and Ireland, with a primary focus on the period between 1300 and 1800. We aim to support the learning, teaching and research of our users from around the world.

BHO was founded by the Institute of Historical Research and the History of Parliament Trust in 2003. Our collection currently contains over 1,280 volumes and is always growing.”

April 2018 Class Schedule



Sandy Granite Family History Center

801.943.3005, 2720
Newcastle Dr., Sandy, Utah,
Tues, Wed. and Thurs. 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.,
Sun. 3 p.m. - 6 p.m.
Youth Hours: Tues, Wed, Thurs
3 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Journaling your Personal History: Shelly Adam

April 4: Wednesday morning, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. in FHC Class (102)

Is the thought of writing your life story overwhelming? It doesn't have to be. Come learn how to do it the fun, easy way through journaling.

Easy Fantastic Family Tree App for Mobile Devices: Debbie Burnett

April 5: Thursday morning, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. in FHC Class (102)

So easy even Grandpa and Grandma can do this! Bring your smart phones, iPhones, and iPads to learn how to easily add photos, docs, stories and audio to your Family Tree. Bring a photo (digital or print) of a relative and if possible a document (death certificate, obituary, etc.) of a relative. This is incredibly easy to use and do.

Getting Started with FamilySearch - Beginner Level: Debbie Brady

April 10: Tuesday morning, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. in FHC Class 102

Unfamiliar with using FamilySearch to do your family history online? Wait no longer. Come learn how to sign in and move around through FamilySearch. Find out what FamilySearch has available for you. See how to view details about your ancestors. Add to or find out who is in your family tree. View a fan chart or pedigree chart of your ancestors. Learn how to begin.

Journaling your Personal History: Shelly Adam

April 10, Tuesday evening, 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. in FHC Class 101

Is the thought of writing your life story overwhelming? It doesn't have to be. Come learn how to do it the fun, easy way through journaling.

Stranger Things on Family Tree You Should Know About: Cathy Pearce Anderegg

April 17, Tuesday evening, 7:00-8:00 p.m. in FHC Class 102

Close/Open and/or Float sections on the Details Page, Edit and Rearrange Sources for Clarity and Unity, I Can Icon - Can U? Watch List Filters.

**Stranger Things on Family Tree You
Should Know About:**

Cathy Pearce Anderegg

**April 18, Wednesday morning, 10:30 -
11:30 a.m. in FHC Class 102**

Close/Open and/or Float sections on the Details Page, Edit and Rearrange Sources for Clarity and Unity, I Can Icon - Can U? Watch List Filters.

Basic PC Computer Tips:

Debbie Brady

**April 19, Thursday morning, 10:30 -
11:30 a.m. in FHC Class 102**

Ever wonder where the undo is in Family Search? How can I open another tab so I don't lose information on the current page? How can I split my screen to see both my person page in FamilySearch and information in Ancestry? Come learn some basic keyboard shortcuts to help you in your family search.

**Family History Activities for Families,
Youth and Children: Scott & Angelle
Anderson**

**April 24, Tuesday evening, 7:00-8:00
p.m. in FHC Class 102**

The class is an interactive, "hands-on" experience with the goal of using the FAMILY HISTORY ACTIVITIES section of the Family History Guide to learn how to (1) Make something new that documents, creates, or contributes to your family history, (2) Make something of yourself that enhances or contributes to your family legacy.

Finding Elusive Records:

Alison VanLeeuwen

**April 25, Wednesday morning, 10:30 -
11:30 a.m. in FHC Class 101**

There are over 1 billion images on FamilySearch and only about ¼ of those images have been indexed. Come and learn how to use the FamilySearch Catalog to find your ancestors in digital

images that haven't been indexed. Also, we will be learning how to use wildcards (* and ?) in searches on FamilySearch.

**Getting Started with FamilySearch -
Beginner Level: Debbie Brady**

**April 26, Thursday morning, 10:30 -
11:30 a.m. in FHC Class 102**

Unfamiliar with using FamilySearch to do your family history online? Wait no longer. Come learn how to sign in and move around through FamilySearch. Find out what FamilySearch has available for you. See how to view details about your ancestors. Add to or find out who is in your family tree. View a fan chart or pedigree chart of your ancestors. Learn how to begin.

**Finding Elusive Records: Alison
VanLeeuwen**

**April 26, Thursday evening, 7:00-8:00
p.m. in FHC Class 102**

There are over 1 billion images on Family Search and only about ¼ of those images have been indexed. Come learn how to use the FamilySearch Catalog to find your ancestors in digital images that haven't been indexed. Also, we will be learning how to use wildcards (* and ?) in searches on FamilySearch.

"While temple and family history work have the power to bless those beyond the veil, it has an equal power to bless the living. It has a refining influence on those who are engaged in it. They are literally helping to exalt their families."

**President Russell M. Nelson,
"Generations Linked in Love", April 2010**

Visit our website for updates, class
schedule, and information:

<http://www.granitefhc.com>

2720 East Newcastle Drive
Sandy, Utah
801-943-3005



To subscribe to *Family Ties*, send
email requests to:

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