



# FAMILY TIES



## SANDY GRANITE FAMILY HISTORY CENTER NEWSLETTER

### Director's Message

#### Glen Steenblik



I have been inspired and personally fortified as I have been reviewing the messages delivered to us on our most recent and historic General Conference. Elder Dale G.

Renlund of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles in the Saturday afternoon session, expressed, "When we gather our family histories and go to the temple on behalf of our ancestors, God fulfills promised blessings simultaneously on both sides of the veil."

He shared examples of how family history work provided "the power to heal that which needed healing." Elder Renlund cited many of the blessings readily available to us as we engage in this sacred work. "As we participate in family history and temple work today, we also lay claim to healing blessings promised by prophets and apostles. These blessings are also breathtakingly amazing because of their scope, specificity, and consequence in mortality. This long list of blessings includes:

- Increased understanding of the Savior and His atoning sacrifice;
- Increased influence of the Holy Ghost to feel strength and direction for our own lives;
- Increased faith, so that conversion to the Savior becomes deep and abiding;



- Increased ability and motivation to learn and repent because of an understanding of who we are, where we come from, and a clearer vision of where we are going;
- Increased refining, sanctifying, and moderating influences in our hearts;
- Increased joy through an increased ability to feel the love of the Lord;
- Increased love and appreciation for ancestor and living relatives, so we no longer feel alone;
- Increased power to discern that which needs healing and this, with the Lord's help, serve others;
- Increased protection from temptations and the intensifying influence of the adversary; and
- Increased assistance to mend troubled, broken, or anxious hearts and make the wounded whole."

Who would not want to be the recipient of such magnificent and accessible blessings? Elder Renlund stated: "If you have prayed for any of these blessings, participate in family history and temple work. As you do so, your prayers will be answered."

With all of the commotion, clanging and clamoring going on in the world today, may we accept the invitation and blessing pronounced by our dear prophet, President



Russell M. Nelson, who in his concluding remarks expressed that our time in the temple

will surely change our lives. He stated: "I bless

you to identify those things you can set aside so you can spend more time in the temple”

Let us, each one, take time to first ponder and then act so that we may be able to spend more time in His holy house performing saving ordinances for those family members who had not the occasion to do so for themselves.

## Family History Activities

### Willowcreek Stake

Memorial Day is a wonderful time to remember and celebrate your family, both present and past. Here are some activities that you can use when the family gathers this month.

① Spend a day honoring an ancestor where you tell their stories, fix the food they liked, go to the places where they lived or worked. Print a picture or story of them. Give it to your family.

② Find a few stories from your ancestors that can be acted out by your families and have a day where you gather and act out those stories. Assign one story to each family to have prepared. It may work well to narrate the stories as they are being acted out. Let props be very simple, and just enjoy the messages. Remember that the scriptures are simply personal history stories.



③ Have a family dinner where every family member brings a dish that denotes where an ancestor originated from. Enjoy the evening talking about that ancestor and telling stories.

④ Teach members of your own family or grandchildren how to make a recipe that has

been handed down from your parents, grandparents, or another generation. Talk about that person.

⑤ Spend a couple of hours learning and doing indexing together. Work in pairs you help each other and have more fun. Make a time goal of an hour where you add up how many names have been done by each team. Reward the winners with a treat.

⑥ Spend an evening or day finding an ancestor to do temple work for in Descendancy or the Fan Chart of FamilySearch.org. Print off the ancestor temple ordinance. Go that day with your family and do the work for the one you have found. Have dinner or dessert together.



## Family History Quotes

Are you in need of effective quotes you can use either in your weekly sacrament meeting programs, in a talk, or on bulletin boards? The Family History Guide has a section that just might be the resource you are looking for.

Go to <https://www.thefhguide.com/> and scroll down in the menu drop down in the top right corner. Scroll down until you find LDS and then click on “Inspiration.” Clicking on that brings up quotes under Goal 7: A. There are several recent quotes from General Authorities on the subject of family history. [I used one of those for the newsletter this month.]

Keep scrolling down the page to Goal 7: B, and you will find several articles about family history which can also yield dozens of quotes.

“We are going to make mistakes, but none of us can become an expert in family history work without first being a novice. Therefore, we must plunge into this work, and we must prepare for some uphill climbing.”

(Thomas S. Monson, “Hastening the Work,” Ensign, June 2014, 4)

## Reserved Ordinances by Family Members Who are Deceased

Recently, a patron at the Family History Center asked a question that our teacher was unable to answer. Upon further investigation, she was able to find an answer, which we feel might be of interest to other patrons:

**What happens to the names reserved by an individual in his temple file in Family Tree upon his death?** The answer was found in the Help Center by simply asking that question when signed in to FamilySearch.

There are three possible reasons discussed in the article why someone may not have access to their reserved temple names:

### ① Patron Dies

- No one can print new family name cards from the temple ordinance list of the locked account.
- Temples continue to do the work for names already shared with the temple.
- Names not shared with the temple—**both printed and unprinted**—can be released upon request, subject to the current 110-year approval process
- Family and friends can complete family names cards printed before the

account was locked; however, they should check to be sure the ordinances are not already completed.

### ② Patron Becomes Incapacitated

When a member of the Church becomes incapacitated, other members can use the helper function to access the temple ordinance list of the member's account.

### ③ Patron is Excommunicated

When a member of the Church is excommunicated, the FamilySearch Account changes to a public (nonmember) account. As a result, the following changes occur in relation to the temple ordinance list:

- The temple ordinance list becomes unavailable to the patron and to helpers accessing the account.
- Temples continue to do the work for names already shared with the temple.
- Names not shared with the temple—**both printed and unprinted**—can be released upon request, subject to the current 110-year approval process
- Family and friends can complete family name cards printed before the account was changed; however, they should check to be sure the ordinances are not already completed.

### Request to Claim Family Names

To claim the entire temple ordinance list of a deceased, incapacitated, or excommunicated relative, contact [FamilySearch Support](#). At the top right of FamilySearch.org, click **Help**, and then click **Contact Us**. Scroll to **Send a Message** and complete the message form. Include the following information:

- A few of the ID numbers, names, and birth dates of the individuals you believe are on the temple ordinance list.

\*Name of the deceased, incapacitated, or excommunicated relative, and the pertinent information below:

\*For a deceased relative, provide some form of documentation (such as a death certificate, obituary, or funeral

program). **Note:** Death added by LDS Church Membership in Latest Changes is sufficient.

\*For an incapacitated relative, provide a statement indicating why the relative is incapacitated.

\*For an excommunicated relative, provide a statement regarding that membership status.

- Your relationship to the relative whose reservation list you want to claim.
- Your username and helper number

[Source: Help Center, Ordinances reserved by deceased, incapacitated, or excommunicated patrons]

## Youth Indexing Olympics Granite Stake

While the Winter Olympics were featured on TV this past winter, the Granite Stake was holding an Olympics of their own: Indexing Olympics. The youth of the stake faced a timed challenge to see how many records they could index in a given timeframe.

Each ward had about 15-20 minutes of instruction and then had 45 minutes to index. The winning ward would receive a



Café Rio dinner. Congratulations to the Granite Ward for taking the Gold and winning the Café Rio dinner. Silver went to Willow Hills Ward with doughnuts as the reward, and the Meadowlark Ward took the Bronze and won candy bars.

## Class Alternative

While our Granite Family History Center strives to offer as many services as possible, we simply don't have all the resources needed to offer all the classes our patrons want. If you are looking for a specific class, you might consider looking at the class schedule at the

Riverton FamilySearch Library. [https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Riverton\\_FamilySearch\\_Library](https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Riverton_FamilySearch_Library) will take you to the homepage for the library.

Scroll down the page until you find **Classes and Class Schedule** under the **Home**



section. Clicking on the **Classes and Class Schedule** sends you to the class page. Scroll down the page and you will find a printable schedule for May. Classes are held Monday-Saturday. Check the schedule to see what classes are being taught and times. Some classes are by reservation only, and some days the Library is closed.

Once a month on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday there is a seminar with keynote speaker and breakout classes following. These are all free to the public, and no registration is required.

## Day of the Dead Alta View Stake

If you watched the recent Pixar movie, *Coco*, you know that the theme song is "Remember Me," sung by Natalia Lafourcade, a recent speaker at RootsTech. Working off this theme, the Alta View Stake has organized a Day of the Dead at the Draper Temple for the youth and family members to do baptisms and confirmations. We're excited to hear how their day unfolds.

## HELP WANTED



We need your help! The Granite Family History Center is looking for anyone who might have expertise in languages besides English. We are often faced with

patrons who need help reading records in another language. We are trying to compile a list of possible helpers. You don't need to be well versed in doing family history work or be of the LDS faith, just know another language.

If you are willing to be used as a resource person or know of someone, please contact Laurie Beardall, 801.859.6606 or email her at [lauriekaye16@gmail.com](mailto:lauriekaye16@gmail.com).

## Scanner Guidelines

We are fortunate to have a really great scanner at the Granite Family History Center for the use of patrons wishing to scan items related to family history work. It is important to remember that the scanner is available to all patrons, and that consideration should be made to those waiting to use it.

Just a reminder that the scanner use should be limited to family photos and genealogical documents. While there is no charge to use the scanner, we must be conscious of what we bring to scan.

Anyone wanting to use the scanner must check in with a consultant before beginning the scanning process. Once you have used your 30-minute session, then check out with a consultant. If another patron is waiting to use the scanner, you need to relinquish the scanner at the end of your 30 minutes, whether you are finished with all your scanning or not. If you need more time, then make arrangements with a consultant for another block of time.

## Own Your Story Part 3

This month we are finishing the ideas presented by Angie Lucas in a FamilySearch blogpost, outlining strategies for writing your own story. To see the earlier ideas, see March and April editions of *Family Ties*.

**Use your handwriting.** Yup, write some of your story by hand. It may be easier for you to type your story, but your family wants to see your handwriting. Think back on those times that you have looked at Grandma's handwritten recipes or a letter from your dad. What kinds of memories do those pieces of writing bring to your mind? Think about what you can write by hand to include in your story.

One of the biggest problems that most writers struggle with is trying to make their writing sound formal. Unless you speak in a formal manner, write the way you speak. The most interesting personal stories are written that way. **Let your authentic voice come through the words** on the page. Forget about grammar. If you feel stuck in trying to find your voice, try writing like you were telling your story to someone. Actually say your story out loud, and then write it down.

As I mentioned in the last paragraph, **don't worry about your spelling or grammar.** Don't let your wanting to be perfect the first time through get in the way of actually getting the words down on paper. Perfection is not a goal; it is a process. Your writing is also a process, so just write. "An imperfect life story that's written down is infinitely more valuable than a perfect story that's never told," stresses Lucas. If you can speak in coherent sentences, you can write in coherent sentences. Once you feel your story is finished, then worry about grammar, etc. You might surprise yourself.

While you are trying to brainstorm things to write about, **try making lists.** This is an easier method of figuring out what you want to write about. The list could include such things as:

- Cities you've lived in
- Favorite movies or books
- Traits you've inherited from your grandma
- Schools you attended

Let your imagination work on possible things to write about and make those lists.

Once you begin writing, **make it a regular practice**. Set aside a day of the week or month to work on your story. You might want to consider your birth month as a time to write. The important thing is that you keep writing. Keep a journal to record your thoughts or use your smartphone to record ideas as they come to you. You might even want to keep **multiple journals**. Each journal can serve different purposes, like memories, funny things your children or grandchildren say, insights, etc. The ideas are endless.

The ultimate goal in owning your own story is to **make that story permanent**. Don't spend hours writing your story and then not share it with others. Your family wants to know who you are! Publish your story or put it in your profile on FamilySearch. Your personal stories will remain private while you are living. Eventually they will be visible to the entire extended family.

What you decide to do with your story is ultimately up to you. Don't let your insecurities stand in the way of your helping your children and grandchildren. Your life can be a guiding light to others, letting them know that you have lived a life worth recording.

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

## May 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.

**All classes taught in Classroom 102 unless otherwise noted.**

#### What Did They Do? Garrett Pace

May 1, Tuesday evening, 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.  
For beginners. Records available through FamilySearch can show you a lot about how your ancestors lived, what they did for a living, and a whole lot more.

#### Ancestry.com: Christy Pugh

May 2, Wednesday morning, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.  
and evening 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.  
Learn the value of having a tree on Ancestry.com. and how to use it to find more records for your ancestors.

#### Leaving Breadcrumbs: Debbie Burnett

May 3, Thursday morning, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.  
Do you have memory loss? I do when it comes to keeping track of what I am doing with hundreds of ancestors. Come and learn how to create a digital research tracking system within FamilySearch. Adding notes and documentation to ancestor entries helps you:  
(a) Solidify your ancestor's information,  
(b) Track issues and questions,  
(c) Communicate with other FamilySearch users about common issues.

**You've Taken a DNA Test, Now What?****Debbie Weaver**

May 8, Tuesday evening, 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.  
 This class will cover the very beginning basics of DNA testing. You will learn basic terminology and how you can use your DNA results for genealogical research.

**What Did They Do? Garrett Pace**

May 9, Wednesday morning, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.  
 For beginners. Records available through FamilySearch can show you a lot about how your ancestors lived, what they did for a living, and a whole lot more.

**How do I Start Organizing all of this Stuff? Lani Abercrombie**

May 15, Tuesday morning, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. and evening 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.  
 This class will explore how to gather and organize your photos and documents so that they are ready to upload to FamilySearch.

**Interviewing Living Relatives:****Cheryl Ferrara**

May 16, Wednesday morning, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.  
 Oral histories preserve wonderful memories and can provide important clues to further your research. Learn tips to prepare for and make your interview a rich and valuable experience.

**Genetic Genealogy (DNA) Explained:****Cathy Pearce Anderegg**

May 17, Thursday morning, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. and evening 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.  
 Intermediate- videos, Ethics and Costs, from [learn.genetics.utah.edu](http://learn.genetics.utah.edu).

**Uploading Photos and Documents to FamilySearch: Lani Abercrombie**

May 22, Tuesday morning, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. and evening 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.  
 This class will provide instruction on how to upload and tag digital photos to FamilySearch so they can be preserved and shared with others. Also learn how to upload digital documents and stories about ancestors. Please bring a photo or document on a USB drive.

**Find-A-Record: Janice Kanaley**

May 23, Wednesday morning, 10:30 - 11:30 am  
 Find-A-Record is a Research Assistant tool which will scan your FamilySearch Family Tree, starting with you and branching out to your ancestors. The search can be limited to specific areas of your tree. This tool then provides an Opportunity List by Category and Type, including links to popular genealogy websites to assist in completing your very valuable research.

**Find My Past: Debbie Combs**

May 24, Thursday morning, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.  
 Learn how to research and attach sources for your ancestors with Find My Past.

**Introduction to the Family History****Guide: Bob Ives, Co-founder**

May 29, Tuesday morning, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. and evening 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.  
 See how this new FREE online tool can help you learn and maximize your family history experience. This website offers learning paths for FamilySearch (the official FamilySearch training partner), Ancestry.com, MyHeritage and FindMyPast as well as dozens of fun family history activities for families, youth and children. Also included is a research section covering over 100 countries and hundreds of records.

**Finding New Names Using Descendancy  
Research: Christy Pugh**

May 30, Wednesday morning, 10:30-11:30 a.m.  
Having a hard time finding new ancestors on your direct line? Learn how to find people in other lines on your family tree using FamilySearch.

**Fitting Family History into Your Life:  
Janet Helland**

May 31, Thursday morning, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.  
You see people around you devoting many hours to their family history work and feel like you just don't have the time to get involved. This class will be designed to help you find ways to fit the blessing of Family History work into your life in 5, 20, 30 minutes a week to a couple of hours a week.

**Finding New Names Using Descendancy  
Research: Christy Pugh**

May 31, Thursday evening, May 31, 7:00-8:00 p.m. Having a hard time finding new ancestors on your direct line? Learn how to find people in other lines on your family tree using FamilySearch.

**Note: There are no formal classes taught during June-August. Fall classes will resume again in September.**

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

**<http://www.granitefhc.com>**

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



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