

October Webinars

It's hard to believe fall is here and Halloween soon will be. It's time to finish up some projects before family arrives for Thanksgiving and Christmas. This month there are webinars on AI, cemeteries, military records, probate, African American research and more. At our meeting last month Bert spoke on maps. There are a couple of webinars that continue with that subject. Always remember to check out Legacy Family Tree Webinars calendar. <https://familytreewebinars.com/>

Oct 1st 2:00 pm “Discover How AI Can Transform Your Genealogy Photos” presented by The Pikes Peak Genealogical Society. Speaker Gerald Heagney introduces easy, practical ways to use AI-powered tools to restore faded images, repair damage, sharpen details, and improve clarity in historical photographs. Please email President@PPGS.org for ZOOM meeting information.

Oct 2nd 12:00pm “Using U.S. Cemetery Records to Fill in Gaps on Your Family Tree,” with Julia A. Anderson. Presented by FamilySearch Library. Watch this presentation at www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZJfYTsoKLHs Find past webinars at www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Classes_in_the_Learning_Center

Oct 3rd 10:30am “Introduction to land Records” with Bert Outlaw. West Florida Genealogy Society. We can learn so much from Land records. Locations, names and relationships to name a few. Join us on Zoom to learn more.
<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/23MBfMatR6OShqGNJjGS9w#/registration>

Oct 5th 6:00pm “Researching Your Revolutionary War Era Ancestors” presented by the Spartanburg County Public Libraries. We'll look at resources that will help you find not only those who fought as either a Patriot or a Loyalist (some people did both), but also those on the home front. <https://infodepot.org.zoom.us/meeting/register/ZhZW7ZE2SEms6vTN8Hm5BA#/registration>

Oct 6th 1:30pm “Born a Slave, Died Free: How William Got His Name Back” presented by The Genealogy Center at Allen County Public Library with Rachael Scott. Buried under a slave name after his death, William’s true identity was lost for generations until genealogical research uncovered the truth. <https://acpl.libnet.info/event/17011478>

Oct 6th 2:00pm “American Soldiers: Navigating the Records from the War of 1812,” with Brian Rhinehart. Presented by St. Louis County Library. Learn why these records were created, how to make sense of them, and what those records can contain for your ancestors. <https://www.slcl.org/events/372456/virtual-program-american-soldiers-navigating-records-war-1812>

Oct 7th 1:00pm “Preserving Family Memories Through Photography,” with J.C. Figueroa. Learn how to clean up scattered photo collections across phones, computers, and cloud services and create a private, organized family space where everyone can contribute safely and effortlessly. <https://familytreewebinars.com/webinar/generations-in-focus-preserving-family-memories-through-photography?language=english>

Oct 7th 10:30am “Photo Restoration Using Free and Paid Tools Like Never Before,” with Kimball Carter, CG® This presentation will show examples of photos with different problems and different solutions using a variety of tools, some free, some paid. Learn how to evaluate what tool to use on the photo and begin restoring! <https://familytreewebinars.com/webinar/photo-restoration-using-free-and-paid-tools-like-never-before?language=english>

Oct 7th 2:00pm “Genealogy Tasks You Can Do in 15 Minutes or Less” presented by the Midwest Genealogy Center. Are you short on time to do genealogy research? This class will help you manage our research in short segments. You will discover suggestions and examples of genealogy research that can be done in 15 minutes or less. <https://www.mymcpl.org/events/122179/genealogy-tasks-you-can-do-15-minutes-or-less-hybrid>

Oct 8th 9:00pm “Weaving the Strands of Your Family Tapestry” with Jacqi Stevens and presented by ROOT CELLAR Sacramento Genealogical Society. By examining two case studies, we will see how the use of other resources—from public reports in newspapers to the more private and intimate accounts of letters, diaries, and oral histories—will enable us to find the threads of our ancestors’ story lines and weave them together into a compelling account of their lives. <https://rootcellar.org/eventListings.php?nm=63>

Oct 9th 1:00pm “They Came from Virginia: A Case Study in African American Research and Methodology,” with Julia A. Anderson. Presented by Legacy Family Tree Webinars. This class will demonstrate sound methodology for tracing your African American ancestors by following the Todd family in a case study. Free for everyone to watch live and for 7 days. <https://familytreewebinars.com/webinar/they-came-from-virginia-a-case-study-in-african-american-research-and-methodology?language=english>

Oct 11th 2:30pm “WriteNOW! Family Writing Group” presented by Colorado Genealogical Society. WriteNOW! is a free family writing group to assist people who want to preserve their family stories in a published book. <https://cogensoc.us/cgs-events/writenow-21/>

Oct 13th 2:00pm “Researching Your World War II Veteran” presented by the Midwest Genealogy Center. Piece together your World War II veteran's military experience using web resources, Library resources, and outside sources. Learn what records still exist and how to locate them. <https://www.mymcpl.org/events/122226/researching-your-world-war-ii-veteran-hybrid>

Oct 13th 2:00pm “Geography & Map Division Virtual Orientation: GIS and Geospatial Resources” presented by Library of Congress. Join us for a virtual orientation exploring the geospatial resources of the Geography and Map Division. This session will be followed by a Q&A session with GIS specialists. <https://www.loc.gov/item/event-420965/geography-and-map-division-virtual-orientation-gis-and-geospatial-resources/2026-10-13/>

Oct 13th 2:30pm “Maps and Trails: Common Migration Paths from the 17th Through 19th Centuries” presented by Genealogy Center at Allen County Public Library. Explore what types of transportation and trails your ancestors might have used to help you trace their whereabouts across the United States. <https://acpl.libnet.info/event/17011687>

Oct 13th 6:00pm “Canadian Her-Story: The Hatmaker, The Story of Sarah A. Shaw”, with Amber Godfrey and presented by Ontario Ancestors, Lambton Branch. <https://lambton.ogs.on.ca/events/october-13-2026-webinar-amber-godfrey/>

Oct 13th 6:00pm “Researching a Civil War Soldier and His Family” presented by York County Library. The link to the Zoom classroom and the program handout will be provided the day of the class. <https://yorkcounty.librarycalendar.com/event/online-researching-civil-war-soldier-and-his-family-53648>

Oct 14th 7:00pm “From Data to Dialogue with AI 1 of 5: Turning Data into Stories”, with Andrew Redfern & Fiona Brooker. Turn structured research into stories, images, presentations, and shareable formats with AI. Advanced application of AI for publishing and presenting; includes image generation, storytelling prompts, visual outputs; activities include drafting, editing, and building presentations. <https://familytreewebinars.com/webinar/from-data-to-dialogue-with-ai-1-of-5-turning-data-into-stories?language=english>

Oct 15th 7:00pm “Google My Maps: Visualizing Your Ancestors’ Lives” with speaker: Linda Debe. Presented by Florida State Genealogical Society. From mapping migration patterns and cemetery locations to planning research trips and validating historical documents, Google My Maps offers a dynamic way to bring your genealogical research to life <https://fsgs.org/future-webinars/google-my-maps-visualizing-your-ancestors-lives-october-15-2026/>

Oct 16th 9:00am “Unlocking Your Roots: Starting Your Genealogy Journey.” presented by Houston Public Library. Learn how to start your genealogy journey or update your skills using a repeatable research process. Begin with what you already know, frame your research question, explore essential records, and organize your discoveries. This is a free full day of speakers. <https://calendar.houstonlibrary.org/event/17244245>

Oct 17th 11:00am “Workshop on Deciphering Old Handwriting” presented by Massachusetts Society of Genealogists, Bristol Chapter. Sindi Terrien will conduct a workshop on how to decipher old handwriting. <https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/elj1kf-jQH6cxVGQt3nY3g#/registration>

Oct 19th 2:00pm “Lineage Societies: Preserving Heritage Through Generations” presented by the Midwest Genealogy Center. Explore four prominent lineage societies—Sons of the American Revolution, Daughters of the American Revolution, Society of the First African Families of English America, and General Society of Mayflower Descendants—with Dr. Shelley Viola Murphy. <https://www.mymcpl.org/events/120028/lineage-societies-preserving-heritage-through-generations-zoom>

Oct 19th 6:00pm "To Be or Not to Be Canadian...Eh! Tips on Canadian Genealogy." presented by KVGs member, Janine Cotugno. Sponsored by Kalamazoo Valley Genealogical Society. Do you know that you might be eligible for Canadian Citizenship if you have an ancestor born in Canada? If you can provide vital statistics and other proof documents to show a direct line between that ancestor and yourself, you can apply for a Canadian Citizenship by Descent Certificate. Learn from Janine what genealogy sources can help you find the needed Canadian documents. Please contact us at info@mikvgs.org several days before the meeting to request the registration link.

Oct 20th 12:00pm Katy Bodenhorn – “Hidden in Plain Sight: Using Image-Only Collections and Full Text on Family Search.org. presented by San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society. For more information <https://srvgensoc.org/> Please email our President to request a link at president@srvgensoc.org

October 20 6:30pm “Deciphering and Analyzing Pre-1850 Census Records” Harford County Library. During this program, Linda Debe will demonstrate

how to identify individuals hidden behind the tick marks used in U.S. census records from 1790–1840. Learn how to collect and analyze census data using an automated Excel spreadsheet, compare findings with later census records, assign names to household members, reconstruct family groups, and verify your conclusions. Participants will receive a ready-to-use Excel tool designed to help uncover missing details and bridge gaps in their family history research. <https://programs.hcplonline.org/event/16890118>

Oct 21st 8:00pm “Uncovering Masonic Connections: Records and Resources,” with Diane L. Richard. Presented by Southern California Genealogical Society. Genealogically, even if you know nothing about Masons or Masonic Lodges, you can learn about your ancestors' involvement, where and when they joined, how they participated, whether they were expelled, and more. These records are a great resource for placing individuals in time and space and identifying their all-important FAN club. Masonic records can be invaluable if one's ancestors belonged to a lodge in the US, UK, Canada, or Europe, focusing on NC records. We'll talk about online records, online finding aids, and on-the-ground repositories.

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/5629297675845581407>

Oct 21st 11:00am “World Cat for the Genealogist” presented by Birmingham Public Library. Learn to bring the world to your door with World Cat, the online catalog of library materials all over the globe. This course will cover World Cat basics along with specific tips and resources for genealogical research.

<https://www.cobpl.org/calendar/default.aspx?trumbaEmbed=view%3Devent%26eventid%3D206643625> uses Microsoft teams

Oct 21st 6:00pm “Archives Month | The Business of Death” presented by Library of Virginia. Funeral homes, headstone carvers and cemeteries are industries that rely on one simple but enduring fact: people die. Although perhaps morbid, these businesses play an important role in communities as creators and perpetuators of the culture around death and memorial.

<https://lva-virginia.libcal.com/event/17277231>

Oct 23rd 1:30pm Open Genealogy Lab: Rebecca Whitman Koford, CG, CGL – “Digitizing History & the Veteran Bounty Lands Project.” To get a Zoom link to join us live, please email your request to smalek@tmcc.edu. Past TMCC Library Open Genealogy Lab guest speaker presentations are now available on the TMCC YouTube Channel!

www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLhcWk1BcihnIj1wCTdNUU4uR-C1TP8uVZ

Oct 24th 10:00am “The Freedmen’s Bureau: African American Genealogy Workshop” presented by Mobile Public Library & the Mobile African American Genealogical Society. Mary Jones-Fitts, President of the Mobile African American Genealogical & Historical Society, will present a genealogy workshop focusing on using Freedmen’s Bureau records to research your African American ancestors. To register, please email Ms. Theris-Boone at etheris@mplonline.org and indicate if you would like to attend in-person or on Zoom. You may also call (251) 494-2172 for more information.

Oct 26th 6:00pm “Along the River, Through the Narrows, or Over the Gap: Traversing America's Frontier” presented by St. Louis County Library. Following the Revolution of 1776, Americans dared to venture west into the wilderness of what would become West Virginia, Ohio, Kentucky and Tennessee. Learn about the migrations west and the many resources available for researching your ancestors as they tested the wilderness in search of opportunity on the American frontier.

<https://www.slcl.org/events/372459/virtual-program-along-river-through-narrows-or-over-gap-traversing-americas-frontier>

Oct 27th 12:00pm “Beyond Facebook: Using Social Media to Advance Your Genealogy Research” presented by Sacramento German Genealogy Society. Speaker-Barbara Schmidt. This presentation explores how genealogists can effectively use platforms such as Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, and others to expand their research network, stay informed about new resources, and collaborate with fellow family historians around the world. Attendees will learn practical strategies for finding reliable information, building meaningful connections, and avoiding common pitfalls while making social media an effective part of their genealogy toolkit.

<https://sggs.us/eventListings.php?nm=54>

Oct 29th 2:00pm “U.S. Probate Records for Genealogy” presented by the Midwest Genealogy Center. Probate records can help genealogists scale that brick wall between generations and add information about their family. If your ancestor had assets, they probably had probate papers.

<https://www.mymcpl.org/events/122194/us-probate-records-genealogy-hybrid>

Oct 29th 6:00pm “Discover Your Past: Will the Real Warren Harris Please Stand Up?” with Mary Jamba. Presented by Avon Lake Public Library. Genealogist Mary Jamba explains through a case study how to determine which record corresponds with which man when three men in the same area share the same name. <https://alpl.librarymarket.com/event/discover-your-past-will-real-warren-harris-please-stand-63493>

Oct 30th 2:00pm “Cemetery Art for Genealogy” presented by the Midwest Genealogy Center. Discover the meanings of commonly found tombstone icons and get an overview of changes in tombstone materials and design along with some tips to maximize your family research.

<https://www.mymcpl.org/events/122206/cemetery-art-genealogy-hybrid>