



Genealogy Journal

Official Publication of the
Grants Pass Genealogical Society
JANUARY 2013, VOL. 12 ISSUE 1

JANUARY PROGRAM

1:30 PM
Relief Society Room
LDS Church
1969 Williams Highway
Grants Pass

Jan Edwards
Social Media in
Family History

Jan Edwards has been doing family history research since 1994. She served a two-year mission for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, training missionaries how to do online Family History.

Her topic for the January 14th Grants Pass Genealogical Society meeting is "Social Media in Family History," a popular class she also taught at the October Seminar in Grants Pass.



PRESIDENT'S LETTER

I'm happy to start a new year and am anxious to see what 2014 will bring us all. 2013 was not one of my favorite years but it did have its moments. We grew as an organization and have many new members. We also lost some friends and the talents that they could have lent to our club with their passing.

Last week I started working as a consultant at the Family History Center on Thursday mornings. I'd done this a few years ago but took a break to do other things for a while. Now that I'm on the FHC staff again I've been able to help 3 patrons with their research and show them the benefit of using Family Search and Ancestry.com as a starting point to help fill in a pedigree file. I can't stress enough how valuable these free resources are when doing a family history project. I'm working Thursday mornings from 8:30 to 12:30 and would be happy to assist any GPGS member who needs

to jump-start their research. When you come to do research please bring your pedigree chart and a research plan if you have one.

I'm only one of many Family History consultants who volunteer at the Family History Center each week and we all hope you will come by to see how nice the facility is and use one of the 10 computers on site. Each computer has access to the Internet and there is also wireless access for your laptop or iPad if you care to use it. Be sure to bring a flash drive to download information you can put into your records.

The Grants Pass Genealogical Society Board of Directors met recently to prepare a budget, do the annual audit and start working on programs for the nine meetings where we have a guest speaker. Some really good ideas were generated at the meeting that include a free workshop to be held in September, a keynote speaker for the FHC Seminar in October, the newsletter, two social events and an update of the bylaws to assure that things run smoothly.

We have a new Vice President – Linda Rahberger who brings unique organizational talents to the mix. I thank Linda for taking on this position and feel confident she will bring some new ideas with her to benefit us all.

Now I challenge you as a member to share your talents either as a mentor to new members or as a speaker at one of the meetings. Don't be shy or think you don't have what it takes to share your story and success with the rest of us.

Happy New Year to you all and I hope to interact with all our members this year and for many years to come.

Celeste Guillory

Informal Member Survey

Our new Vice President, Linda Rahberger, is soliciting suggestions for future programs/classes. Although we already have some programs planned, Linda hopes to develop an ongoing list of ideas to draw from that will appeal to our members. You can contact Linda at e-mail lr97526@gmail.com or 541-479-4670. We appreciate your suggestions and participation in planning future presentations.

Member Roster

Our member list is currently being updated. We plan to give each member a copy of the roster on March 1st, with the caveat that it is not to be used for anything

other than club business, and especially not for commercial purposes. As our group grows, we feel this would encourage members to get to know one another and enable them to network with each other on genealogy research. If you do not want your name/address/phone number/e-mail address to be shared with others, please notify Shar Fairchild, Treasurer, at donsharf@gmail.com.

In Memoriam

Our member Don Koch passed away on December 10th at Rogue Regional Medical Center in Medford. He worked for Graybar Electric in California for several years, then formed his own company with partners, retiring in 1993. He belonged to the Rogue Area Senior Computer Assistance League and of course genealogy was one of his hobbies. You may remember that he won the blue ribbon for best entrée (Tuna Casserole) at our August Potluck in 2012.

Virginia “Ginny” Von Gal passed away on December 24th at Three Rivers Medical Center. Although she was not a member of the Grants Pass Genealogical Society, she belonged to the PAF (Personal Ancestral File) Users Group for many years and was a long-time family history researcher. She was known to many who came to the Family History Center over the years. She was a veteran and will be interred at Eagle Point National Cemetery with her husband who passed away some years ago.

Christmas Potluck

We had a smaller turnout than usual for our December 17th potluck. The weather had been very cold and roads were icy, but we enjoyed each other’s companionship and a chance to socialize. The green ribbon (our club’s official color is green) entries for favorite dishes went to Linda Kent (Chili-Cheese Casserole), Pam Bick (Green Jello Salad) and Janis Seaton (Holiday Cookie Plate). There were several raffle prizes awarded, as well: “My Roots Are Here” T-Shirt (Elder Boswell), One-Year Membership to GPGS (Mary Williams), Large Family Tree Wall Chart (Bill Bray), Thumb Drive and Case (Linda Kent), book about overcoming genealogy brick walls (Elder Johnson), and Bathroom Spa Kit (Louise Lydon).

Needed: Others to Help Row the Boat

Help, please! We need some more “rowers” to help out the stalwart few who make this society run. The board members are juggling extra duties in addition to their own, and we could use a little help. We have gained enough new members in the past two or three years that there must be some folks out there who have the expertise or willingness to help as: Web Master, Program Presenter, Event

Organizer, or Newsletter Article Submitter, just to name a few. Even if you don't have time to take on an ongoing job, there are plenty of times we could use someone to just perform a one-time assignment. If you are one of these people, please make yourself known to any of our board members. Their names and contact information are on the Society Contact Information page of this newsletter. Right now we are forming a committee to work on revising the bylaws. Janis Seaton is chairing this committee. If you would like to participate, please let Janis know. This may not be a glamorous job, but it is SO important to keep things running smoothly.

Fourteen Ways to Find Someone's Death Information

Thank you to the Klamath Basin Genealogical Society for sharing a useful list of possible sources for a person's death information, which originally came from the website, "The Ancestor Hunt." Look for the list among the attachments to this newsletter.

Recommended Web Sites:

www.miap.us

Missing in America Project. In February we will hear a program about this ambitious project to identify the unclaimed cremated remains of American veterans. Our help is needed to gather the appropriate information about the veterans that is required by the National Cemetery Scheduling and Eligibility Office in order to authorize their burial in national cemeteries. Read up on this noteworthy project and decide if you might want to participate in the process.

<http://books.google.com>

Google Books. This site has a searchable index so that you can search for books on an ancestor or a topic of interest to you. For example, I searched on London goldsmiths, since I had some ancestors who were in that business. There were 649,000 search results, including several histories of the goldsmith trade, city directories listing goldsmiths in business at the time, and pictorial displays of the "marks" used by each goldsmith to stamp their work.

www.oldbaileyonline.org

Old Bailey Online. The Old Bailey was the central criminal court in London, England. This website is fully searchable for transcripts of criminal trials during the time frame of 1674-1913. I found my London goldsmith ancestors listed as witnesses/victims in thefts from their businesses. If you have a London connection, you may find this website useful in your research.



Upcoming Events:

GPGS (Grants Pass Genealogical Society) meetings are held at 1:30 PM on the second Tuesday of each month (excepting December, July and August) at the LDS Church, corner of Harbeck Road and Williams Highway in Grants Pass. Board of Directors meetings are generally held at 12:30 PM prior to General Meetings and are open to any members who wish to attend.

RVGS (Rogue Valley Genealogical Society) meetings and classes are held at the Jackson County Genealogy Library (JCGL), 3405 South Pacific Highway, Medford. Classes designated as OLLI provide an introduction to genealogy for the beginner or advanced beginner. The series of classes runs five weeks and is offered exclusively to OLLI members on one day of each, and to RVGS members/non-members on alternate days each week. The OLLI class dates shown in our newsletter refer to the ones available to RVGS members/non-members.

Jan 8 *Family Tree Maker (Mac) User Group, 10:00 - 11:30 AM. Group facilitated by Barbara MacMillen. Call 541-512-2340 to inquire about further meetings of this group. Free.*

Jan 11 *Family Tree Maker 2012/2014 Basics (for PCs) class taught by Charleen Brown and offered by RVGS from 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM. Free to members, \$20 for non-members. This is a continuing series; follow-up classes (at the same per-class charge) will be offered and scheduled once a minimum of 5 students sign up. Call 541-512-2340 to register.*

Jan 14 *GPGS monthly meeting at 1:30 PM, Social Media in Family History, by Jan Edwards.*

- Jan 14 *Family Tree Maker (PC) User Group*, from 2:00 – 3:30 PM at RVGL. Ongoing monthly group facilitated by Connie Miller of the RVGS. Free, but please register at 541-512-2340.
- Jan 21 *Chris Walker, Jackson County Clerk* will share some of the history, holdings and secrets of the County Clerk's Office from 1:30 to 3:00 PM at RVGS monthly meeting. Public invited, no charge.
- The fun continues with *Diggin'in the Dark* from 3:00 to 9:00 PM. Free genealogy research and assistance at the Genealogy Library. Please register in advance at 541-512-2340.
- Jan 27 *How to Start Your Genealogy Project*, taught by Charleen Brown. This is a free class offered by RVGS from 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM. Please register at 541-512-2340.
- Jan 28 *Quilts and Genealogy Talks: Maryum's Yellow Rose*, a talk by Anne Billeter from 1:00 – 2:00 PM at the JCGL. The story of the McKee family told through a quilt designed by a descendant and expanded through genealogical research.
- Jan 30 Learn how to borrow eBooks for free by using the *Library2Go* online service available through the JCLI website with your library card. This free class will be held from 5-7 PM in the Ben Bones room at the Grants Pass Library. Jeff Moore of Oregon Books & Games will lead this hands-on workshop. No charge, but space is limited to 15 people. Call 541-476-0571 to register. Bring your library card and eReader device to the workshop.
- Feb 1 *Brick Wall Roundtable Discussion*, 1:00 to 2:00 PM, offered by RVGS. Please register in advance (541-512-2340), donations encouraged.
- Feb 4 *Family Tree Maker (PC) User Group*, from 10:30 – 12:30 PM at RVGL. Ongoing group facilitated by Connie Miller of RVGS. Free, please register at 541-512-2340.
- Feb 6-8 *RootsTech 2014*, hosted by FamilySearch to be held at the Salt Palace in Salt Lake City, Utah. Early Bird pricing (\$89 for one-day pass, \$189 for four-day pass) still available through January 20th. **Some**

information contained in flyer at end of newsletter. See website (<https://rootstech.org>) for more detailed information.

- Feb 11 GPGS monthly program at 1:30 PM. John Hull of the *Missing in America Project* will speak about this program to locate, identify and inter unclaimed cremated remains of American veterans. There is some genealogy work involved in the process, and our members may wish to participate in this worthwhile endeavor. Further information is available at www.miap.us.
- Feb 18 Learn *The Secrets of the Libraries*, in a talk by Anne Billeter (Director of the Jackson County Genealogy Library) and the Southern Oregon Historical Society Library Manager from 1:30 – 3:00 PM at JCGL.
- Diggin' in the Dark* runs from 3:00 to 9:00 PM after the *Secrets of the Libraries* program.
- Feb 22 *Heritage Faire* hosted by the LDS Church Family History Center in Redding, California. The Faire will take place at the Family History Center, 3410 Churn Creek Road, across from Enterprise High School. Entrance fee of \$10 covers classes, syllabus and hot lunch. See new flyer containing class descriptions at the end of this newsletter.
- Mar 6 *Finding Your Way Home, Writing Memoirs, Family History and Sharing Memories*, from 10:30 AM to 1:00 PM at JCGL. This class continues on a weekly basis for eight weeks. Scheduled class dates are March 6, 13, 20, 27, April 3, (no class April 10), April 17, 24, and May 1. Instructor Joan Hill (popular blogger of [Roots'n'Leaves](#)) conducts the class. Register at 541-512-2340.
- Mar 11 *Irish Genealogy*. 1:30 PM at the GPGS monthly meeting. The exact title and emphasis of this program are yet to be determined, but this will be a fresh presentation about some aspect of Irish family history research. Speaker Janis Seaton.
- Mar 18 *Pinto—The Early Years*, 1:30 – 3:00 PM at RVGL. Program about Vance “Pinto” Colvig given by Ben Truwe, Southern Oregon historian.

Diggin' in the Dark follows *Pinto—The Early Years* from 3:00 to 9:00 PM in the RVGL.

- Apr 4-5 Bend Genealogical Society plans a *BGS Spring Seminar* featuring Denise Levenick, the author of “How to Archive Family Keepsakes.” Visit her website at <http://www.thefamilycurator.com> for information about her field of interest and specialty. We will include a copy of the flyer when it becomes available.
- Apr 6-13 *Workshop on Wheels* (group bus trip to Family History Library in Salt Lake City. Meet new friends, socialize over lunch and dinner, and get help with your genealogy problems. Suitable for any level of genealogy experience. Contact Betty Miller (millerba1@hotmail.com) with questions. We will publish the flyer in this newsletter as soon as it becomes available.
- August *Picnic Potluck*. Date and place still to be determined.
- Dec 9 *GPGS Christmas Luncheon at TapRock Grill* from 11:30 to 2:30 PM.



Society Contact Information:

Grants Pass Genealogical Society
P.O. Box 214
Grants Pass, OR 97528

Website: www.gpgenealogy.org

Meetings held on 2nd Tuesday of each month (except July, August, December) at 1:30 PM at the LDS Church, Relief Society Room, 1969 Williams Highway (corner of Harbeck), Grants Pass, Oregon.

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14 Ways to Find Someone's Death Information

From the website "The Ancestor Hunt" <http://www.theancestorhunt.com/>

When researching our ancestors, one of the most important events is obviously their death. Determining dates and location of death is important as we document the major events in their lives. Most folks limit their search to the obvious repositories, whether online or not. That would include online or offline death indexes (such as the SSDI and State Death Indexes), death certificates, obituaries, and burial/cemetery records.

But there are many more ways to determine specifics about someone's death, as well as finding clues that help you narrow their death date to a decade, a year, or even less. Most of these cannot stand alone as evidence of the actual date and location of an ancestor's death - so you might want to check many of these sources to provide corroborating evidence.

Below is a list of 14 different ways to find clues and evidence about your ancestors' death:

1. SSDI - the Social Security Death Index (SSDI) is probably the most frequently researched collection of death information. Unfortunately there are many instances of errors and omissions evident in this collection. Often only the month of last benefit is entered rather than the death date. And the location is the location where benefits were received - not always the actual death location.
2. State Death Indexes - whether online or in a book at a library - these provide dates and sometimes locations of death. But since they are indexes that are most likely entered from death certificates, you always have to keep in mind that transcription and typing errors can occur.
3. Death Certificates - this is the best document for establishing date and location of death. Usually they are signed by an attending physician (at least in the last 100 years or so) who was there when the ancestor patient died. But other information on the certificate is only as good as the information known and memory of the informant, usually a family member.
4. Cemetery Records - there are lots of ways to find this information. There are several online sites that have information and photos of gravestones, where the date (or at least year) of death is inscribed. And you can visit individual cemeteries where records sometimes are made available. But again these are only as good as the information that the purchaser of the gravestone has provided. Mistakes can be made.
5. Mortuary Records - this is a resource that I have personally used. Often they are hard to get to, but they often provide a great deal of information regarding the decedent and his or her burial and funeral, including date of death. And some of the mortuary records have the obituary attached.
6. Coroner's Reports - although a coroner's report often states the date the deceased person was found, which may have been different than when he or she died - the reports are quite detailed and can provide quite useful information.
7. Probate and Estates - these legal documents will likely have the death information for your ancestor who has passed, as well as the legal proceedings and will information.
8. Military Records - the military is quite good in keeping lots of information regarding service members so you should have lots of places where the death information is recorded, in the case of an ancestor who died while on active duty.
9. Immigration Records - in the oft chance where an ancestor died while immigrating, make sure that you check all the pages of a recorded voyage. Many times there are notes, should the immigrant have passed while in transit.
10. Obituaries - another very frequently used piece of information. But these are only as good as the memory of the person providing the information - as well as the person working at the newspaper and their skill and attention to detail. Many mistakes are made in obituaries.
11. Census Records - well you won't find anyone's death dates in a census record. But you might find some clues. Say Mr. Smith and his family showed up in the 1930 census. But in the 1940 census, the same family is there but he isn't. If he had died, likely Mrs. Smith would be denoted with a "W" or "Wd" in the Marital Status column indicating that she was a widow. This would most likely mean that Mr. Smith had died sometime between 1930 and the next census. So you could then perform further research centering on his demise for the decade between 1930 and 1940. Now if Mrs. Smith and Mr. Smith had divorced in that same decade and then she married a NEW Mr. Smith who then died, then the original Mr. Smith might still be around. One could come up with all kinds of interesting scenarios - but generally the first case that I mentioned would hold true.
12. City Directories - you won't find death dates in City Directories either, but if Mr. Smith showed up in a 1922 City Directory with his wife's name in parentheses, e.g. "(Polly)" and then the 1923 City Directory has no Mr. Smith and a Polly Smith (widow) at the same address, then you might conclude that Mr. Smith died in 1922 or 1923 - again providing a narrower next area of research for you to perform.
13. Church Newsletters - I have found ancestor death dates in newsletters for the Church that they attended. So for more recent deaths for churches that write and distribute newsletters - this is a source of death date clues. You might want to keep track of what churches, synagogues, etc. that your ancestors worshipped.
14. Personal Bibles - many families recorded birth and death date information in the family Bible.

Heritage Faire 2014

Saturday, February 22, 2014
3410 Churn Creek Road, Redding, CA

Open to the public

A full day of classes with outstanding Instructors!

★ **Check our website for class descriptions and instructor information.**

Ancestry.com –Discover the Power —Tamara Noe

Ancestry.com –Filtering for Better Results—Tamara Noe

Census Records —Marti Roe

Civil War Union - Melinda Kashuba

Civil War Confederate—Melinda Kashuba

Creating Family Stories from Research –Marian Kile

Elementary, My Dear Watson! —James Baker

DropBox for Genealogy — Marian Kile

DNA Another tool for Genealogy– Mike Witesman

DNA Round Table Discussion—Mike Witesman

FamilySearch/FamilyTree —Ken Richins

FamilySearch/FamilyTree for Consultants –Ken Richins

German 101 —James Baker

Google Your Family History —Lena Harmon

Heritage Quest – Why should I use it?—Tamara Noe

Indexing for Beginners —Robert Pugh

Indexing for Intermediate & Advanced

—Robert Pugh

Reunion for Mac iOS—Ken Bower

RootsMagic —Ken Richins

Solving the Most Common Family History Mysteries

— James Baker

Starting Right in Genealogy —Ken Bower

Strategies for Finding the Hardest Ones —James Baker

Wiki.FamilySearch.org —Lena Harmon

*Hosted by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
Redding CA Family History Center*

(3410 Churn Creek Rd, across from Enterprise High School)

Registration: Opens at 7:45 a.m.

- No pre-registration required

Opening Program: 8:30 a.m.

Classes Begin: 9 a.m. **End:** 4 p.m.

Entrance Fee by Donation: \$10

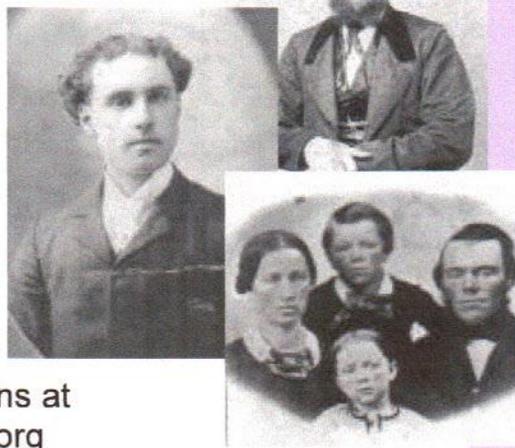
Includes classes, syllabus, & hot lunch

For more information call

(530)222-4949 or (530)241-7254

Or visit our website to view class descriptions at

www.reddingfamilyhistorycenter.org



Class Descriptions:

Ancestry.com –Discover the Power —Tamara Noe

Do you sometimes feel lost with how to use Ancestry.com? Sometimes there are so many results from a search that you feel overwhelmed and many of the results don't seem relevant. This class will address those concerns by showing the many filtering tools available and some tools and techniques to use to outsmart transcription errors. Also covered will be how to navigate the location searches, the card catalog, family trees, message boards, and the gems you'll find in the learning center.

Ancestry.com –Filtering for Better Results—Tamara Noe

Getting millions of results from a search on Ancestry.com is only fun once, before you realize that most of them don't make any sense at all. Knowing how to filter on Ancestry.com is the key to having better results. Learn where, how, when, and when not to filter. Many examples, including live searching, will be used in this class.

Beginning Genealogy —Lena Harmon

A class focused on how to start your genealogy from square one. What you need to know so you won't duplicate research. Whether you have a computer or want to use paper to store your information there are many options to help you do it YOUR way.

Census Records —Marti Roe

Civil War Union - Melinda Kashuba

Civil War Confederate—Melinda Kashuba

Creating Family Stories from Research –Marian Kile

If we don't have the details of our ancestor's life, we still can develop meaningful stories to capture what they might have seen or did during different times in their lives. Marian will show us where to begin, where to research and how to bring it all together.

Cutting and Pasting from the Internet -Marian Kile

Marian will show us the basics of cutting and pasting as well as some special tips that will help us with our genealogy as well as other PC activities.

Elementary, My Dear Watson! Solving Your Genealogy Puzzles with Clues You Already Have —James Baker

This presentation deals with ways to solve your genealogy problems for those situations where some of your key data are missing or inadequate. Case studies are presented to show how the use of inferential methods may be used to fill genealogical gaps while maintaining research integrity.

DropBox for Genealogy — Marian Kile

Dropbox is one of the most popular free "cloud computing" applications. Marian will show us how to get started, manage, add folders and files, add accesses for others, share and more.

DNA Another tool for Genealogy– Mike Witesman

If you have tested or are considering being tested this class will target the questions you should ask. This class will explain available DNA tests, identify testing labs and explain the costs and benefits of testing. Will DNA testing help me find a distant relative? This "new" tool has helped many and frustrated others. This class is appropriate for those considering DNA testing and anyone who has tested.

DNA Round Table Discussion—Mike Witesman

Anyone considering testing their DNA and those who have tested can benefit from the experiences of others. This is your chance to find answers or places you may find those answers. Bring your questions (and test results if you have them).

FamilySearch/FamilyTree —Ken Richins

FamilvSearch/FamilvTree for Consultants –Ken Richins



[Click Here for
PDF Flyer](#)

German 101 —James Baker

This presentation focuses on the dominant features of doing German genealogy research, stressing the differences from working in US genealogy. Emphasis is given to the major types of records used in both the US and in Germany, along with the most vital internet sites, books, and libraries.

Google Your Family History —Lena Harmon

We will explore the many ways you can use Google in Family History online research.

Heritage Quest – Why should I use it?—Tamara Noe

Heritage Quest is a great source for information that can be accessed by you from home for FREE. Come learn how to search the census records, search through over 28,000 family and local histories, search PERSI with its index of over 2.3 million genealogy and local history articles, search Revolutionary War records, search the Freedman's Bank records, and search the U.S. Serial Set of actions of the U.S. Congress.

Indexing for Beginners —Robert Pugh

This beginning class will help you get started in indexing. Taught by our Indexing Director you can get personalized help to start. Class space limited as it is held in our Family History Center.

Indexing for Intermediate & Advanced --Robert Pugh

This class will answer your questions if you are an experienced indexer. If you need help finding answers to special projects this is the class that will show you where to find the answers.

Genealogy for Tablets & iPads —Lena Harmon

Can we as genealogists use our mobile devices to do genealogy research effectively? We will explore the new APPS for iPads and tablets available and other tools that you can use along side these APPS to assist you in your genealogical research.

RootsMagic —Ken Richins**Solving the Most Common Family History Mysteries --James Baker**

This presentation discusses the best methods of solving four common family history mysteries: (1) getting the correct names for your people, (2) getting the right birth/marriage/death data, (3) working with conflicting evidence, and (4) proving or disproving family myths.

Strategies for Finding the Hardest Ones —James Baker

This presentation goes through step-by-step procedures to illustrate seven strategies for finding the most challenging data. Examples are presented for using a variety of strategies including collaboration, search engines, family organizations, the tomes, property records, broadening your search, on-site hard-copy, and DNA evidence.

Wiki.FamilySearch.org —Lena Harmon

This presentation will help you learn everything you wanted to know about how to access the FamilySearch Wiki and the many resources and tools available through the Wiki at FamilySearch.org.

Don't Miss the Largest Family History Event in North America!

From: Family Tree Magazine <partners@familytreecommunity.com>
To: janisseaton@earthlink.net
Subject: Don't Miss the Largest Family History Event in North America!
Date: Jan 3, 2014 6:01 AM

[Open this email in your browser »](#)

familytree magazine



A MESSAGE FROM OUR TRUSTED PARTNER.

rootstech

Exciting RootsTech 2014 Keynote Speaker Lineup Includes Ree Drummond-The Pioneer Woman

Announcing an all-star lineup of keynote speakers at [RootsTech 2014](#). They will inspire you to **discover** and **share** the stories that connect your family—past, present, and future.

The fourth annual RootsTech conference, hosted by FamilySearch, will be held February 6-8, 2014 at the Salt Palace in Salt Lake City, Utah. In addition to renowned keynote speakers, the conference features [over 200 classes](#), hundreds of interactive booths in a huge [Expo Hall](#), and evening events, with a [free concert](#) featuring Vocal Point, from NBC's *The Sing-Off*.

Early bird pricing is available for a limited time. [Register today!](#)

Thursday, February 6



Ree Drummond, blogger and author, *The Pioneer Woman* Ree is an award-winning blogger and New York Times bestselling author. Her popular website, *The Pioneer Woman*, was founded in 2006 and showcases her cooking, photography, and stories about country life.



Annelies van den Belt, CEO, DC Thomson Family History Annelies is changing the way digital genealogical records are published and organized. Her company hosts 1.8 billion genealogical records across a family of online brands.

Friday, February 7



Judy Russell, blogger and professional genealogist,
The Legal Genealogist

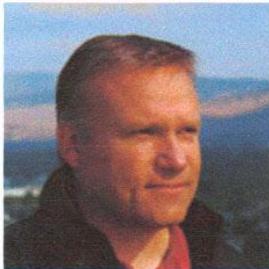
Judy is a certified genealogist with a law degree who enjoys helping others understand the interplay between genealogy and the law. She blogs and maintains The Legal Genealogist website.



Dr. Spencer Wells, project director, *National Geographic Genographic Project*

The Indiana Jones of genetics, Dr. Wells has traveled the world and captured the DNA of more than a half-million people to tell the story of the human journey.

Saturday, February 8



Todd Hansen, TV host, *The Story Trek*

Behind every door there is a story. This TV series consists of random door-to-door interviews to discover who lives behind those doors and their real stories.



Stephanie Nielsen, blogger and author, *NieNie Dialogues*

Stephanie's story of survival and recovery after a plane crash captured the hearts of the nation. She has inspired others through interviews with Oprah Winfrey and on the Today Show.

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