

Cedar & Vernon County, MO Genealogical Society

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Genealogical Society Monthly Meeting

Tuesday, August 15, 2017, 10 a.m.

El Dorado Springs Library Meeting Room

808 S. Main Street, El Dorado Springs, MO

Summer is the perfect time for a Research Trip

This program will review where records may be located and tips for planning a research trip. Where did your ancestors live? Have you only researched online for records in that location? If so, you are potentially missing many relevant records. Be prepared for your research trip - use the internet to find repositories in the areas where your ancestors lived and plan your research trip to take advantage of all research possibilities in that location.

If you are unable to travel to the states and counties in which your ancestors lived, perhaps you can plan a visit to a regional research library and take advantage of the collections held there. Often those collections can help narrow your research focus and help identify records that you will need to order by mail or pay a small fee to obtain.

If you have not yet planned a genealogy research trip, now is the time to do so! Let's get together and spend a day at Midwest Genealogy Center in Independence, MO, researching our ancestors – Nancy T. will be traveling to the Midwest Genealogy Center on August 24, and seats are available in her vehicle; please contact her to make a reservation if you would like to ride with her.

Following the Aug 15 program, the DNA session will explain how to transfer your test results to the free www.gedmatch.com website. At this website, your autosomal results will be compared to thousands of others who have transferred their results from other testing companies, and there are additional comparison tools that you can use. GEDmatch is only for autosomal DNA comparisons and not for Y-DNA or mtDNA. Prior to the meeting, go to the GEDmatch website and register a free account using your email address and a password you create for the GEDmatch website (you should not use the same password on multiple websites). You can also read general information about the website and the comparison tools there. If you would like to transfer your test results on Aug 15, bring your user name and password for the company with which you originally tested (ancestry, FTDNA, 23&me, etc.) and also your GEDmatch password. If bringing your personal computer, check to ensure it has downloaded and

installed all required updates prior to the meeting if you have not had it turned on for a while, and also bring the computer power cord and mouse. If you would like to use my laptop to transfer your results, you can do so provided you have already registered on GEDmatch and bring all of your passwords for your DNA accounts. You can, of course, transfer your results prior to the meeting if you would like to do so.

Don't forget to bring a written 3- to 5-minute family story that you can read during the meeting.

The monthly genealogy society meetings are open to everyone interested in family history research; invite a friend. Meeting locations alternate between Nevada and El Dorado Springs on the third Tuesday of the month at the local library. If questions, please contact the society by email.

Changes to the Find A Grave Website

Have you noticed the yellow banner along the top of each Find A Grave memorial? Ancestry is changing the website and says the changes are to make it more secure, improve performance and speed, and support mobile devices and other languages. Ancestry invites feedback on the new format and is responsive to the suggestions received; at least they've already added one suggestion this user (and probably others) made. The feedback button is at the bottom right corner of each page when viewing the new format. For those who do not like change, you can use the "Back to the old site" link in the yellow bar at the top of each page to return to the old site. It took me a few minutes to find the new location for everything on the site, and I like the new screen for uploading photos, so take a look at it and tell ancestry what you think. I do not know if there are other changes coming to www.findagrave.com.

Best Choice UPCs and Labels for Education

Maxine M. is anxious to receive your labels which are exchanged for \$\$\$.
Please bring them to any meeting.

Using the "Heritage Quest" Website

Heritage Quest is available at both the El Dorado Springs and Nevada libraries.

To use Heritage Quest at the Nevada Library: using any computer (not limited to the Genealogy Dept computers), go to the library's website home page, and click on the Heritage Quest icon at the bottom center of the screen and begin your searches.

If at the Cedar County Library in El Dorado Springs, click on the green “Online Resources” button and then select Heritage Quest from the list of links and begin searching.

You also have the option with your library card to access the Heritage Quest website from your computer at home or away from the library as long as you have internet access. Go to your library’s website and proceed the same way as above. Enter your library number in the required blank that comes up. If accessing Heritage Quest through the Nevada Library, you will need to enter the letters NPL, a space, and then your library card number.

Heritage Quest has census records but also several other resources that are not available at other websites. Additionally, there is access to part of the PERSI index. You may recall from a previous genealogy program that PERSI is short for Periodical Source Index which is an index of articles from almost all genealogical and historical publications across the U.S. If you identify an article you would like to read, you can see if there is a local library that has that periodical in its collection, or you can order a copy of that article from the Fort Wayne Indiana Public Library where staff create the PERSI index.

Vacationing in a Cemetery

Our congratulations to member Neoma F. for her cover feature article in a recent issue of *Primary Treasure*. She wrote about a new family in the community that discovers an abandoned cemetery and organized a small Church School group to clean up the cemetery as a summer project. Everyone gets better acquainted as they work together and enjoys a cookout following their afternoon in the cemetery. The children recognize that it is a way to serve God and their community.

How-to Library Books

The Nevada Library Genealogy Dept has a nice group of genealogy-related books that can be checked out with your library card. The subjects range from beginning genealogy to solving brick walls to writing a family history to planning a reunion to tombstone art. Also, there are books on using the Family Tree Maker software! Many of these books were purchased by the Genealogy Society and they are there for your use – they’re located on top of the bookshelves in front of the bulletin board – their Dewey library code begins with the single letter G.

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