



Education

Preservation

Networking

What Could Have Happened?

Creating and Proving Hypotheses to Solve Tough Problems

Thursday, April 9, 2026

[Pre-Registration Required!!!](#) [Details page 4](#)

Speaker: [Kory Meyerink](#)

Networking and announcements at 6:30 pm Pacific
Program at 7:00 pm



About our speaker: Kory Meyerink specializes in the colonial northeast and tracing the origins of German and Dutch immigrants. He has developed instructional and reference material for FamilySearch Centers and was content consultant for the PBS *Ancestors* television series. Kory taught history for 20 years at Brigham Young University and was the founding director of the Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy (SLIG). He has written extensively, including his recent book, *New York in 1698*. Kory currently serves as a Master Genealo-

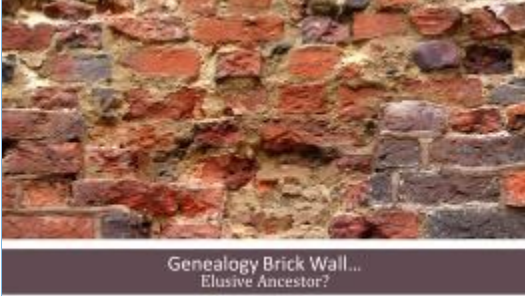
gist and Senior Research Manager with [AncestryProGenealogists](#).

About our program: One tool of advanced researchers is the well-developed hypothesis, which serves as a starting point for detailed research that can often prove relationships not apparent in standard sources. Learn how to effectively use this approach for your “brick-wall” problems.

Everyone is welcome---we hope you will join us.

For more information about EGS, visit our website at eastsidegenealogicalsociety.org

JOIN THE CONVERSATION



What tough genealogy problems have you had or currently have? What new approaches will you try as a result of tonight's presentation?

March 12, 2026—Recap

How to Write a Family History Book: It's Easier Than You Think

[Rebecca Shamblin](#)

Handwritten signature of Rebecca Shamblin.

Rebecca began by explaining WHY you want to transform your genealogy research into a book that can be shared with others. The most compelling reasons include an easy-to-read format and preserving our research long after our own demise.

She listed three different examples of book creation software, including:

- Microsoft Word—has templates for narrative biographies
- [MyCanvas.com](#)—uses Ancestry.com or FamilySearch.org account
Products include: Photo prints, photo books, calendars, wall art, and flip card game
- [Family Book Creator](#)—plug-in that uses Family Tree Maker software as source

Rebecca recommends getting started, recognizing your research will never be complete. She suggests identifying a focus and scope, and creating different books for different branches or even smaller twigs of your family, rather than a comprehensive “one book” covering your full database of ancestors.

She showed numerous examples using Family Book Creator, including photos and maps, giving context and how to fix errors. Creating a book can also help “clean up” your database by identifying inconsistencies and errors. Finally, she gave examples of printing options and costs.

From Melissa:

I'm going to take Rebecca's advice to stop procrastinating and overthinking, and just start planning a book. I'm not even really interested in writing a book per se, but I have relatives requesting my research, and I need something to send to them. Something that they can enjoy as a book will be so much better than just dry facts in a digital file.

Melissa Kacher and Marcia Williams



President's Message

Today, as I write this, is the first day of Spring! Although we had snow here earlier this week, I am hopeful that we have turned the corner to milder weather. I hope that Spring has sprung wherever you are.

I was excited to see the turnout for our March monthly meeting about creating a family book. The topic was clearly of interest to our members and guests with 50 people in attendance that evening.

I wonder how many people came away with the sincere intent of getting started on their own book.

Candidly, creating a book has never been on my radar, but I have seen the interest in family history a book has created among non-genealogist family members in my daughter-in-law's family. The closest I have come is creating a scrapbook for my mother-in-law of her family tree as a Christmas present in 2014. It contained genealogy charts, copies of documents and newspaper articles, and plenty of photographs. I also have a wonderful, framed family chart with photographs that I created in collaboration with a designer at **Family Chartmasters** to display my research on my and my husband's ancestors.

Photography has been a hobby of mine since childhood, a connection I shared with my father. When I got interested in investigating my family in junior high school, I deliberately took individual pictures of every relative I met on our trips to England. I am grateful to have those photos today as most of the people in them are no longer with us.

In addition to taking my own photographs, I have become the collector of the family photographs for both my family and my husband's family. I am very fortunate that my mother-in-law had many old pho-

tographs of her family, several of which are beautifully framed and now hang in my home. Others have been scanned, logged, and placed in archival sleeves in archival boxes to preserve for future generations.

I have many fewer historical photos of my own family. Fortunately, my father's interest in photography led him to collect some family photos when his mother and mother-in-law passed away. I have those photos as well as all the photographs, both slides and prints, that my father took himself or compiled into photo albums over the years. In the last several years, I have thought about putting together a collection of photos of my relatives to add to the display of my husband's family. I selected 16 black and white pictures, had copies made, decided on



the arrangement, and went to the frame store early this year. In addition to being very happy with the result, I'm pleased to have my family photos hanging on the wall. It is my hope that my grandson, who is very interested in pictures of people, will ask questions, listen, and learn about those who came before him. Maybe he'll be my successor as the family genealogist!

How are you preserving and sharing your family genealogy?

April 9 EGS Meeting



- **Find the Registration Link – available in three locations**

Newsletter

Emails (2) sent to members

[EGS website](#)

[Click to Register for April Meeting](#)

- **Enter the required information**

Your First, Last Name

Email address

City, State. Country

- **Agree to not record the meeting in any way without the express written permission of EGS**

- **Click Register**

- **Look for the Zoom link in your inbox: no-reply@zoom.us**

If you lose the email with the Zoom link, you can register again, even after the start of the meeting!

Questions? Email: president@eastsidegenealogicalsociety.org

New Special Interest Group!

Purpose:

- Use AI to help with genealogy, learning together
- Encourage members in the use of AI
- Share resources, tips, information, results

Organizational Meeting:

- **Tuesday, April 28, 10 AM PT via Zoom**
- Email: Alsig@eastsidegenealogicalsociety.org to get the Zoom link
- Interested but can't attend? Email the address above.



EGS Field Trip to [Heritage Quest Research Library](#)

Thursday, May 21

EGS is planning a field trip to **Heritage Quest Research Library (HQRL) in Puyallup, WA**

First 10 EGS members to sign up will be **free** – all others will need to pay the \$15 day use fee.

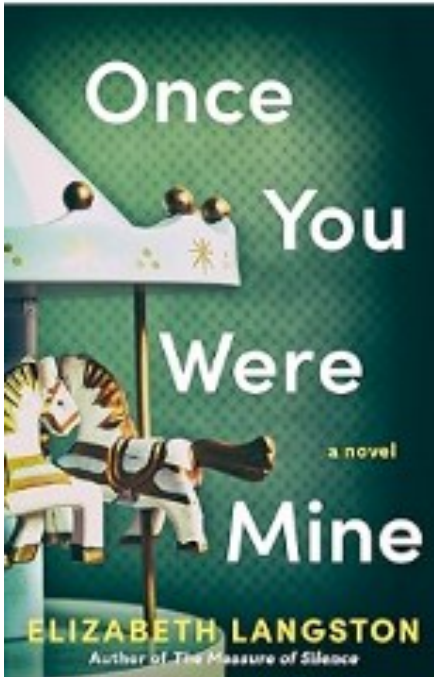
Details:

- **Thursday, May 21, 2026**, in place of May EGS Lunch Bunch
- Meet at FamilySearch Center, 10675 NE 20th Street, Bellevue
- 8:45 AM—Gathering time—for carpooling
- \$15 day charge for library usage for non-members of HQRL
- \$40 to join HQRL (Individual), then day usage fee included for a year
- FamilySearch Affiliate Library
- Extensive library of books and resources; some available for purchase at huge discounts
- Bring a lunch, or buy a lunch nearby (bakery and café in same complex)
- RSVP to [Kimberly Nichols](#)—let her know if you will be meeting us there or carpooling
- Those carpooling will return to Bellevue mid-afternoon

Genealogy Book SIG

Friday, April 10, 2026, 10 AM PT via Zoom

Contact [Kimberly Nichols](#) to be added to the email list to receive the Zoom link.



A genealogy search reveals heartrending connections between friends as it brings to light one woman's traumatic past as a teenage mother in the 1960s.

In a quiet North Carolina town in 1968, a seventeen-year-old girl's life is forever changed when a summer romance leads to an unplanned pregnancy. She is sent to an abusive "maternity home," where she is shamed and deceived into signing adoption papers.

In the present day, Allison Garrett volunteers as a "search angel," using DNA tests to help strangers locate lost relatives. But the family tree she finds most compelling is that of her own mother, who was abandoned as a baby. As Allison puts the pieces together, they reveal much more than her mother's origins—and threaten to create further divisions in her tight-knit community.

When a family is separated by devastating circumstances, is it possible for them to heal the pain of the past and make up for lost time?

Rating: 4.3 out of 5 stars; Included with Prime Kindle membership



May 8, 2026

Next book list being developed by
Book Club members.

Watch for the new list in the coming months.

Submit suggestions to
[Kimberly Nichols](#).



Eastside Genealogical Society

Family Tree Maker SIG meeting—3rd Friday of most months

But not in April!

Friday, April 24, 2026

10:30 am PT

Via Zoom

- **Send Questions**
- **Join email list**

ftmsig@eastsidegenealogicalsociety.org



TWISTED BRANCHES

The idea behind this feature is to identify potential ancestors who may be related to other EGS members through a common theme or location.

FOR MAY- MAYFLOWER ANCESTORS

Did one or more of your ancestors arrive on the Mayflower in 1620?

Send their name and your relationship—

Examples:

Degory Priest, 10th great grandfather

Mary Allerton, 9th great grandmother

Oceanus Hopkins, 9th great grandfather (and his parents, Stephen and Elizabeth)

Send your information to newsletter@eastsidegenealogicalsociety.org before **April 18**.

TWISTED BRANCHES CIVIL WAR SOLDIERS

EGS CONNECTIONS



My great grandfather **Philipp Quitmann (1848 – 1925)** enlisted in the Union Army on the 23rd of Dec 1863. The date really puzzled me, because when I got his pension record I had no idea he was Jewish. He lied about his age; he was fifteen and a half, he told them he was seventeen. He was recruited as a musician.



His older brother **Samuel Quitmann (1846 – 1915)**, who was seventeen, enlisted the same day, but they served in different units.

Judy Gehman

Both were buried at Waldheim Cemetery, Forest Park, Illinois

Henry Warren Townsend (1824—1865)

3rd great uncle

Born: Lancaster, Worcester, Massachusetts

Served with Co I, 58th Indiana Infantry

Muster Date: Sept. 8, 1862.

Muster Out: June 1, 1863, Nashville TN.

Died at Nashville, TN; cause unknown, likely heart attack, unrelated to direct military duty.

In February 1866, his wife filed a claim for **Increase of Widow's Pension**. It was granted at the rate of \$8 per month for each of their seven children.



Marcia Williams

*Nashville National Cemetery,
Nashville, Tennessee*

I had two great-great-grandfathers who fought in the Civil War on the Union Side.

Samuel Henderliter (1822-1905)

17th Wisconsin Infantry Co. H 1864-1865

Gabriel Bollman (1812-1880)

69th Illinois Cavalry

14th Illinois Cavalry

occupation - blacksmith 1861-1865

Carol Pattison

Chippiannock Cemetery, Rock Island, Illinois



Confederate Soldiers



One of my great-great grandfathers, **William Edlar Alley (1829 – 1893)**, who lived in the area between Petersburg and Richmond, offered his services to the Confederacy. He had been a soldier during the Mexican War, and his unit went to Texas, arriving after the fighting was over. Based on a letter he wrote to the government in Richmond, he was offered a post but felt that it was not commensurate with his skills and abilities and thus declined to serve.

Thomas Alexander Chappell (1832-1884) was a devout adherent of the Confederate cause. He joined a militia company as early as December 1859 and enrolled in a company of volunteers called the **Hargrove Blues** after Virginia seceded from the Union in May 1861. Between June 1861 and April 1863, he served in the **12th Virginia Infantry** during the Peninsula campaign and later in the **9th Virginia Infantry**, initially as a 1st Sergeant and later as a 2nd Lieutenant. Thomas re-enlisted for the war's duration in late April 1862. Petersburg, Thomas' hometown, was a major railroad center, and for most of 1863 and 1864, Thomas and his men guarded the main railroad between Weldon, NC and Petersburg. In early 1864, Thomas was promoted to Captain of a company raised locally and called **Captain Chappell's Pickett Guard** which served in the Petersburg area until the Confederate withdrawal. Captain Chappell surrendered at Appomattox with the rest of Lee's army.

Union Soldiers

My third great-grandfather, **Hugh Darby** and his son, **George** (my second great-uncle) both enlisted and served in Company E of the **14th Kentucky Infantry**. They enlisted in October 1861 and were mustered out in January 1865. Hugh was a corporal and 44 years old when he left the service. There is no evidence that he fought in any major battles. George did not take well to the military and in 1862 deserted, was caught, found guilty and spent the rest of the war maintaining public fortifications without pay. Hugh and George are difficult to research because in a different company of the 14th Kentucky there is a Hugh Darby serving with his son George. Relationship between the two Hughs is currently unknown.

Jane Wickert



Eastside Genealogical Society

Italian Interest Group meeting

Saturday, April 18, 2026

1:30—3:30 pm PT via Zoom

Exploring Italian Catholic Parish Registers

Suzanne Russo Adams, MA, AG®

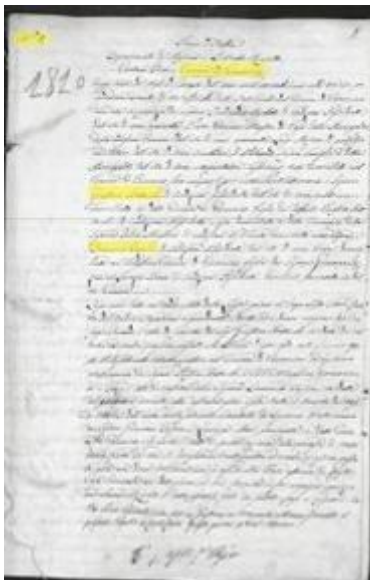
ITALIAN GENEALOGY



If you aren't a registered member,

[Click Here](#)

for meeting registration.



Description

“*Exploring Italian Catholic Parish Registers*” introduces researchers to the rich genealogical and historical information found in parish records across Italy. This session will cover how to identify the correct parish and diocese for your ancestors, and how to locate and interpret key sacramental records—baptisms, confirmations, marriages, and burials. Participants will gain practical strategies for navigating these records and understanding the valuable details they contain for family history research.

Suzanne Russo Adams, MA, AG®

Suzanne Russo Adams, MA, AG®, is an Associate Professor of family history and the Director of the Center for Family History and Genealogy at Brigham Young University. An Accredited Genealogist® specializing in Italian research, she holds degrees in Family History/Genealogy and Sociology, as well as a master's degree in History. With over 25 years of experience in the genealogy field, Suzanne has worked extensively in record acquisition, strategy, and content digitization for [Ancestry.com](#) and [FamilySearch.org](#). She is the author of “*Finding Your Italian Ancestors: A Beginner's Guide*”.





Eastside Genealogical Society



German Interest Group

Website: [EGS-GIG](https://www.egs-gig.com)

[Register](#)

Friday, April 3, 2026

12:30—2:30 pm PT via Zoom
Zoom registration required.

Topic: Using Hansen's Map Guides To Locate Your Ancestor's German Parish Records

Hansen's Map Guides to Parish Registers simplify the process of locating the parish registers containing the records of your ancestors. The Guides contain detailed information about Catholic and Lutheran jurisdictions for locations within the former German Empire (including areas now in Poland, Lithuania, Russia, Denmark, and France), Switzerland and Luxembourg, and also some information about Jewish congregations in those areas. Given your ancestor's hometown, learn how to identify the most likely parish(es) with the records, then check the online availability of the registers on FamilySearch, Archion and/or Matricula.



Presenter:
Bernard N. Meisner

Bernard is a genealogist and lecturer based in the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex. He began researching his family over 35 years ago and enjoys sharing lessons learned from that experience, including his mistakes.

He is a co-leader of the Dallas Genealogical Society's German SIG, and a member of the Texas State, the Germanic, and the National Genealogical Societies. He has written several articles for the Texas State Genealogical Society's quarterly magazine, [Stirpes](#).

Upcoming—Spring 2026

May 1—Locating Records from Poland Online
See website for more information



Eastside Genealogical Society

Special Interest Groups—Sponsored by EGS

SIG	Meetings	Coordinator	Email/Website
Genealogy Book SIG	2nd Friday of most months at 10 AM	Kimberly Nichols	vicepresident@eastsidegenealogysociety.org
Family Tree Maker SIG	3rd Friday of most months at 10:30 AM	Janet Stroebel	ftmsig@eastsidegenealogicalsociety.org
German Interest Group Doesn't meet in July and August	1st Friday of the month from 12:30-2:30 PM with times adjusted for international speakers	Dorothy Pretare	GIG_Leader@eastsidegenealogicalsociety.org
Italian Interest Group Doesn't meet in December	Meets virtually 1:30-3:30 PM on the 3rd Saturday of the month Sept thru June	Mary Sangalang	egs-iig.com
Lunch Bunch	3rd Thursday of the month, 11:30 AM — 1:00 PM	Celia McNay	egsgenealogyhelpers@yahoo.com
Artificial Intelligence	Group Forming; See page 5	Catherine Smith Kimberly Nichols	Alsig@eastsidegenealogicalsociety.org

Special Interest Groups

Sponsored by [Seattle Genealogical Society](#) (SGS) - Click on [Calendar of Events](#)

[South King County Genealogical Society](#) (SKCGS) - Click on [Meetings and Events](#) —> [Monthly Schedule](#)

[Tacoma-Pierce County Genealogical Society](#) (TPCGS) - Click on [Events](#)

SGS

Pacific Northwest Interest Group
Write It Up! Writers' Group
FamilySearch Users Group
MAC Computer Interest Group
Irish Interest Group
Scandinavian Interest Group
Brags and Bricks
Mexican Special Interest Group
Eastern Europe Interest Group
Ancestry Users Interest Group

DNA Interest Group

Publishing Interest Group
AI for Genealogy
Organizing for Genealogy
TPCGS
Genealogy Chat
Legacy Family Tree
Writing Family History
DNA Special Interest Group
Mystery Book Club

SKCGS

Tech Users Group
Genealogy Chat
Family History Writing
Family Tree Maker Users Group
Genetic Genealogy/DNA Group
WikiTree User Group

Upcoming Events and Genealogy Help



Next Lunch Bunch— Apr 16

11:30—1:00—reserved room in church across from the **FamilySearch Center**, 10675 NE 20th Street, Bellevue. Bring lunch from home or buy food from a nearby location.

Topic: Full Text Searching on FamilySearch

Use the **FamilySearch Center Library** with their databases, some of which require a paid subscription or are only available from a FamilySearch Center. Browse their book selection and get help.

Use their computers or bring your laptop; library open until 6:00 PM. No reservation required.

Contact: [Celia McNay](#) with questions.

NOTE: May 21 Lunch Bunch will be a field trip to Heritage Quest Library. Details Page 5.

Genealogy Help

Bellevue Library—Computer Lab

Upcoming Sessions

Apr 9 & Apr 23

10:30—12:30

2nd and 4th Thursdays monthly

No registration required

In-person assistance with



Ancestry Library Edition

Registration Is Open

Join the world's largest family history conference free online and in person, March 5-7, 2026. Our full learning library is open everyday.

There Is So Much More to Discover

Our library has hundreds of classes to help you learn what you need to discover more about your family story.

[Search the Library](#)

You can **still find and view online videos** from RootsTech 2026.

Register online **FREE!** Build a “Watch list” of seminars to view in the coming months.

For more information, click the link [RootsTech2026](#).

Focus on Genealogical Proof Standard

Website and Book of the Month



[National Genealogical Society](#)

Links to Genealogy Courses—including:

- Foundations in Family History
- Advances Skills in Genealogy
- Continuing Genealogical Studies

[Understanding Genealogical Proof](#)

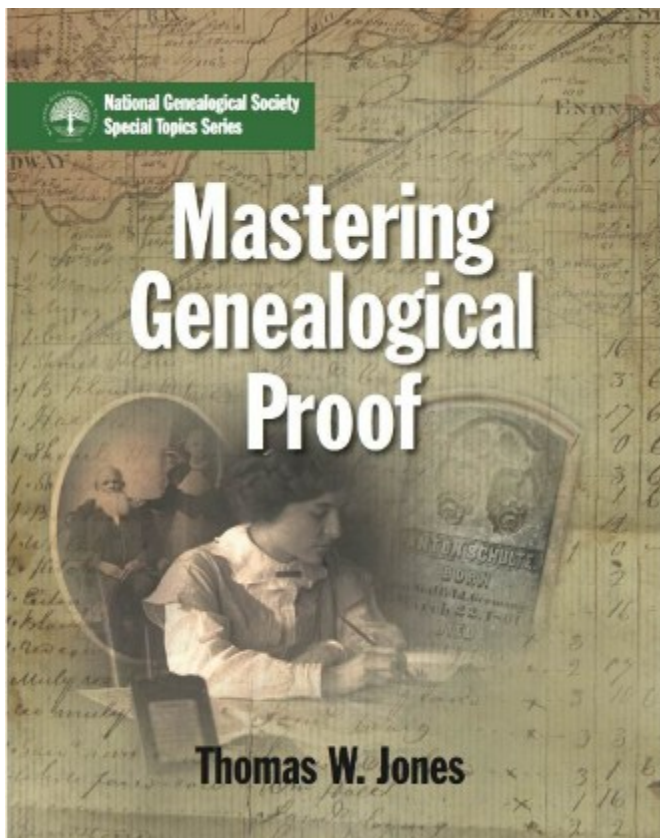
Background and context; link to a syllabus

Five steps, simplified:

THE GENEALOGICAL PROOF STANDARD

1. Gathering the evidence – when is enough enough?
2. Identifying the bread crumbs back to the source.
3. Correlating your findings – analyzing and testing the facts.
4. Checking for discrepancies – resolving conflicting evidence.
5. Crossing the finish line – writing the conclusion!

[Mastering Genealogical Proof](#), Thomas W. Jones



Mastering Genealogical Proof aims to help researchers, students, and new family historians reconstruct relationships and lives of people they cannot see. It presents content in digestible chunks. Each chapter concludes with problems providing practice for proficiently applying the chapter's concepts. Those problems, like examples throughout the book, use real records, real research, and real issues. Answers are at the back of the book along with a glossary of technical terms and an extensive resource list.

Sample Chapter Titles:

- Genealogy's Standard of Proof
- Concepts Fundamental to the GPS
- Thorough Research
- Source Citation
- Analysis and Correlation
- Resolving Conflicts and Assembling Evidence

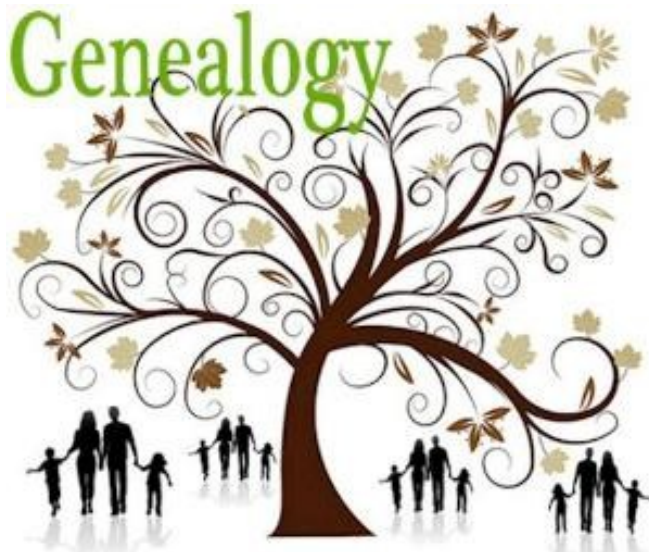


Bellevue, Washington

Eastside Genealogical Society

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Website: [Eastside Genealogical Society – Home](#)



Welcome new Members to EGS

- Anne B Rockwell
- Barbara Bombaci
- Kristi Wessenberg
- Kirk Patton
- Karen Ellingson
- Nicole Mitchell
- Anda Allen
- Ellen Hoffman

EGS Board of Directors

President	Janet Stroebel	president@eastsidegenealogicalsociety.org
Vice President	Kimberly Nichols	vicepresident@eastsidegenealogicalsociety.org
Secretary	Janice Leitzke	secretary@eastsidegenealogicalsociety.org
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Membership	Celia McNay	egsgenealogyhelpers@yahoo.com
Programs	Beth Snyder	programs@eastsidegenealogicalsociety.org
Publicity	Catherine Smith	publicity@eastsidegenealogicalsociety.org
SIG Coordinator	Jane Wickert	SIG-coordinator@eastsidegenealogicalsociety.org
Webmaster	Melissa Kacher	webmaster@eastsidegenealogicalsociety.org

Help make this newsletter meaningful to our members! If you have ideas for articles or features you would like to see, suggestions for improvement, or would like to write a book review or article for the newsletter, please email us at newsletter@eastsidegenealogicalsociety.org



Eastside Genealogical Society

This n That

A list of genealogical items of interest to us this month

Free Seminars that caught our attention:

[New York Genealogical and Biographical Society](#)—Events

Apr 13—Making the Most of *FamilySearch* for New York Research

Apr 22—Mixers and Shakers: Tracing Your Bartending, Salon Keeping, and Tavern Keeping Ancestors Before Prohibition

May 05—Using NYG&B Guides—Repositories and Collections

[Massachusetts Society of Genealogists, Inc](#)—Events

Apr 11—Immigration and Naturalization Records

Apr 25—Dead Men *Do* Tell Tales: Recreating Life in a Community Using Death Certificates

[Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania](#)—Events

Apr 16—How DNA Solved the Idaho Multiple-Murder Case but Raised Ethical Issues

Scroll to see upcoming GSP Webinars

[American Ancestors](#)—

Subscription website with many free seminars for non-members too! Search on

Events.



American Ancestors[®]
by NEW ENGLAND HISTORIC GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Upcoming Events—Just a few of the many free and paid seminars

- **Apr 9, 2026:** Unlocking the Stories of the Scottish Soldiers from the Battle of Dunbar (Free)
- **Apr 14, 2026:** Finding the Elusive Maiden Name (\$)
- **Apr 18, 2026:** From Tyranny to Freedom: Irish Contributions to the American Revolution (\$)

For Your Calendar See Newsletter for details

Date	Event	Page
3 Apr	German Interest Group —Using Hansen’s Map Guides to Locate Your Ancestor’s German Parish Records	11
9 Apr	EGS Monthly Meeting: What Could Have Happened?	1, 4
9 Apr	Genealogy Help —Bellevue Library—Computer Lab	13
10 Apr	Genealogy Book SIG — <i>Once You Were Mine</i>	6
16 Apr	Lunch Bunch and Research —Full Text Searching on FamilySearch	13
18 Apr	Italian Interest Group —Exploring Italian Catholic Parish Registers	10
18 Apr	Deadline for March Eastside Genie articles	
18 Apr	Deadline for Twisted Branches – Mayflower Ancestors	7
23 Apr	Genealogy Help —Bellevue Library—Computer Lab	13
24 Apr	Family Tree Maker SIG – Note new date!	7
28 Apr	AI SIG - Organizational meeting	5
1 May	German Interest Group – Locating Records from Poland Online	11
21 May	Heritage Quest Research Library Field Trip	5
Various	Free and low-cost webinars American Ancestors, NY, MA, and PA Genealogical Societies	16

