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### ★ New Programs ★

**Allied with the Allies** - Examine the abundant resources, service files, and information for service men and women who served in Canadian, UK, Australian, and French forces during World War I. The lecture will also examine Red Cross records and resources in the US and abroad.

**Aliens in the Army** - Non-Citizens residing in the USA during World War I were drafted in the military, and with their induction into service, and the government responded by streamlining the naturalization process for these 'alien' servicemen. Find out how you can research your WWI ancestors in records at the National Archives and discover more about their military service and personal path to citizenship.

**I Have My Ancestor's WWI Record! Now What?** - You've received your ancestor's WWI service file! What do you do next? This presentation will take you through the resources and search strategies available to you online and in archives and how to plot your ancestors' wartime experiences.

### General Research Programs

**Internet Archive – The Amazing Genealogical Resource You're Not Using!** – Can't find it on Ancestry? Learn all about Internet Archive and its amazing collection of city directories, county histories, gazetteers, yearbooks, and family genealogies. If you haven't been on this site yet, you're missing a lot of fantastic resources!

**Beyond Ancestry** - Not all your research online can be conducted with Ancestry.com. There are many free and budget friendly resources which can assist you in conducting genealogy research on the web. This program covers exciting and evolving websites from across the United States and parts of Europe.

**Using Fold3 Library Edition** – Love it or hate it, Fold3 is cornering the market on American military records online. Learn how to navigate the site, browse resources effectively, and find the hidden gems on this fantastic database.

**Try-It Illinois! (October & November)**– The annual Try-It Illinois Database trial which runs from October 1-November 30, allows you to access a ton of free genealogy databases from home for free! Learn how to navigate these resources successfully to fulfill your research goals!

**Civil War Genealogy: Tracing the service of Billy Yank and Johnny Reb** (2 Hour session co-hosted with Tina Beaird from the Plainfield Public Library) - Did your ancestors take up sides during the Civil War? Learn about the resources, research sites, and strategies for learning more about your veteran ancestors!

### **Sorting through Sordid Southern Divorce Records**

The practice of divorce in the southern United States can vary by location and time period. Get an overview of divorce laws and practices from 1780s-1860s.

### **The Hunter of Tallulah - The Truth and Legend of an Indian War Ancestor**

Adam P. Vandiver was small of stature but his exploits measured to giant proportions. Vandiver was an extreme mountain man, veteran of the War of 1812 Indian Wars, and boasted to have over 30 children with three wives, though albeit, not at the same time. In a story pieced together by historical and genealogical records, you can learn how to sort fact from fiction when researching a larger-than-life ancestor.

### **World War I Research Topics**

#### **The Diary of Wesley Peever – A World War I Genealogical Mystery**

What happens when a dusty heirloom doesn't actually belong in the family? Discover how a Great War diary was lost, found, and returned home. This

program will provide strategies, tips, and resources for Canadian & American peacetime and wartime records.

## **Burial and Cemetery Programs**

**Victorian Mourning Customs - Lifting the Veil off Morbid Genealogical Treasures** gives attendees a glimpse into the customs and rituals of death in Victorian Britain and North America. Genealogists can thank the Victorians for the 'cult of mourning' which generated a fantastic assortment of keepsakes, mementos, and paperwork. Discover how these materials and the cultural attitudes toward grief can be researched with the help of modern tools and new resources.

**Stories in Stone: Decoding the Sentiment behind Cemetery Symbolism** - Have you ever wandered through a cemetery and wondered about the meanings of the designs carved on old gravestones? The symbols found on headstones usually possess special meanings to those interred in their final resting place. But what do they mean? Take a virtual tour of several cemeteries and find out!

**What's the Buzz About BillionGraves?** - BillionGraves is contending to be the top cemetery search site on the web. Toting a hot new app and an easy interface, BillionGraves is making cemetery transcription projects and research information more accessible to tech-friendly users. Get a look at this site as a researcher, transcriber, and in-the-field data gatherer.

**BillionGraves: Beyond the Basics** – Move beyond the basic point and click concept of BillionGraves to a whole new level of usership. Learn how to add cemeteries, contribute content, and what you can use with the BillionGraves Plus account.

## **England, Ireland, and Scotland Research Topics**

**Crime, Prison, and Punishment: Researching UK Criminal and Prisoner Records online and at the National Archives** – Whether by choice or circumstance, some of your ancestors may have found themselves on the wrong side of the law. The vast array of criminal and prison records available online and at the National Archives in Kew can offer researchers a great deal of information for their ancestors in a pre-census world.

**Piecing Together your UK and Irish Ancestry: Discovering Records on FindMyPast.com** - Learn the ins and outs of FindMyPast – one of the largest online website for UK and Irish records. This introduction to search and strategy techniques will help you locate, evaluate, and make sense of what’s available for your research.

**Peeling Back the Plaid: Revealing the Records of ScotlandsPeople** - Learn how to use ScotlandsPeople.gov.uk, the tech treasure trove of online Scottish records. This introduction to search and strategy techniques will help you locate, evaluate, and utilize the fantastic records on this site.

**Discovering your UK/Irish Roots Online: Websites and Resources for English, Welsh, Irish and Scottish Ancestry** - There is no such thing as "one stop genealogy shopping"! This program will lead you through the resources and search techniques for the three big UK and Irish databases: FindMyPast, ScotlandsPeople and RootsIreland. Learn what's new on these databases, how you can apply them to your research and how privacy and information rights impact your quest for records.

### **Technology Topics**

**Pinning Together Your Genealogical Past on Pinterest** - Are you on Pinterest? It's more than just tasty recipes and weight loss tips. This site can help you sort, share, and promote your genealogy projects. Learn how to create pins from your own research, collaborate with others on your projects, make a visual "to-do" list, save your must-have reads, and share your successes with other genealogists.

**No Photo? No Problem! - How Slides and Negatives Capture the Past** – Those photo negatives and slides aren’t useless! Learn how new types of scanners and software can bring these forgotten photo collections back to life! Program resources include software suggestions, books, and online resources.

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