

# Discover Your Roots Beginning Genealogy

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Shoals Public Library

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Washington Carnegie Public Library

Program Sponsor: Martin County Genealogical Society

# What is Genealogy?

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- Webster defines genealogy as the account of the descent of a person, family or group from an ancestor or older forms, or the study of family pedigrees
- Study of families and the tracing of their lineages and history. Genealogists use oral interviews, historical records, genetic analysis, and other records to obtain information about a family and to demonstrate kinship and pedigrees of its members.



# Thoughts

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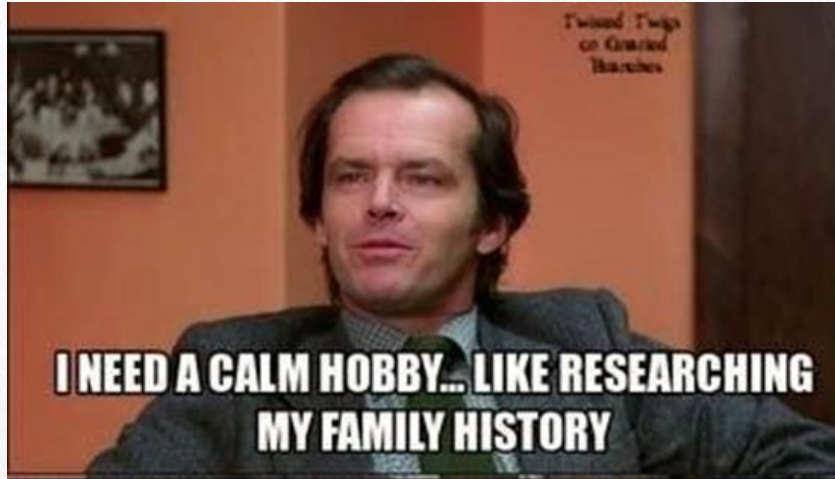
- We all grow up with the weight of history on us. Our ancestors dwell in the attics of our brains as they do in the spiraling chains of knowledge hidden in every cell of our bodies. – Shirley Abbott
- If you figure there are 25 years between each generation, 500 years ago there were 1,048,576 people involved in creating YOU! You are special! – Anonymous

## Something to keep as you research:

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- Some family trees have beautiful leaves, and some have just a bunch of nuts. Remember, it is the nuts that make the tree work shaking – Author unknown





**I NEED A CALM HOBBY... LIKE RESEARCHING  
MY FAMILY HISTORY**



**ONE YEAR LATER**

# Set Research Goals.

I would like to do genealogy to:

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- know from what countries my ancestors came to America
- confirm suspected American Indian ancestry in my family
- discover military service in my family
- pass down family information from one generation to the next.
- know the medical issues in my genetics
- make money
- complete a 4-H project



# Recording on Paper or Software

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- [4-H](#) Forms are excellent to use and are free to download
- Pedigree Chart
- Family Group Sheet
- Information Worksheet
- Diary of your work
- Genealogy Checklists

# Begin with YOU!

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- Collect meaningful items: Birth certificate, marriage certificates, baptismal certificates, photographs, diplomas, yearbooks, etc.
- Write down your memories: Places you have visited or lived, schools attended, stories about grandparents, places in town where you grew up
- Look for same information about your family members including death certificates and military records



# Pedigree Chart

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- Write surnames in capital letters – use maiden names for females
  - Ralph Prather DUNN
  - Estelle Dyanne PHIPPS
- Unknown Maiden name use ()
  - Estelle Dyanne ()
- Commonly used nickname in quotes after given name
  - John “Jack” Lee TODD

- Do not use professional or military titles in the given name field. These titles are not part of a birth name but, instead, are earned titles
  - Gov. Edward Kempe DIGGES
- Write dates military style
  - 29 Mar 1961
- Write names of places from smallest jurisdiction to largest. This equates to: town/township/locality; county/parish/district; state/province; country.
  - Washington, Daviess, Indiana, USA
  - Chilham, Kent, England

# Be Consistent



**Pedigree Chart No. 1**

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**1**   
**Born**   
**Where**   
**Died**   
**Where**

**Originated by:**   
  
**Date**

**2**   
**Born**   
**Where**   
**Died**   
**Where**

**3**   
**Born**   
**Where**   
**Died**   
**Where**

**4**   
**Born**   
**Where**   
**Died**   
**Where**

**5**   
**Born**   
**Where**   
**Died**   
**Where**

**6**   
**Born**   
**Where**   
**Died**   
**Where**

**7**   
**Born**   
**Where**   
**Died**   
**Where**

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12		
13		Andrew CARNEGIE
14	<b>Born</b>	25 Nov 1835
15	<b>Where</b>	Dunfermline, Fife, Scotland
16	<b>Died</b>	11 Aug 1919
17	<b>Where</b>	Lenox, Berkshire, Massachusetts, USA
18		
19		

2		
3		William "Banner" W. BRUMMETT
4	<b>Born</b>	16 Apr 1795
5	<b>Where</b>	Tennessee, USA
6	<b>Died</b>	19 Apr 1853
7	<b>Where</b>	Daviess, Indiana, USA
8		
9		



## Family Group Sheet Sample

	<b>Number 2</b>	<b>HUSBAND'S Full Name</b>	William David BLAKE
	When	Where	Sources
Birth	6-Sep-1945	Anyplace, IN	Lincoln County Birth Records Vol.7,pg.7
Marriage	3-Aug-1971		
Death			
Burial			
	Other wives (No. 1, 2, etc.)		
	His father	William James BLAKE	
	His mother	Ann Marie CARPENTER	
	<b>Number 3</b>	<b>WIFE'S Maiden Name</b>	Irene Ellen SMITH
	When	Where	Sources
Birth	8-Oct-1945	Anywhere, IN	Lincoln County Birth Records Vol.8,pg.12
Death			
Burial			
	Other Husbands		
	Her father	Howard Leon SMITH	
	Her mother	Hazel Ann JONES	

### Children - in order of birth

	<b>1. Name Susan Irene BLAKE</b>		
	When	Where	Sources
Birth	2-Jun-1973	Somewhere, IN	BLAKE Family Bible; Irene SMITH BLAKE
Death			8-Aug-1990
Marriage			
	Name of spouse		
Birth			
Death			
	<b>2. Name Timothy Leon BLAKE (twin)</b>		
	When	Where	Sources
Birth	3-Mar-1975	Somewhere, IN	U.S. Passport #555
Death			
Marriage			
	Name of spouse		
Birth			
Death			
	<b>3. Name Tamara Leanna BLAKE (twin)</b>		
	When	Where	Sources
Birth	3-Mar-1975	Somewhere, IN	HINSHAW Quaker recs: Vol I Pg 35
Death			

Use "Alt" key and "Enter" key to make returns in a cell.

4-H 748I-W

<b>Name of 4-H Member</b> _____	
<b>Information Worksheet</b>	
	#1 on chart _____
Places of residence:	
Schools attended:	
4-H Club(s) / 4-H projects taken:	
School activities and clubs:	
Religious affiliations:	
Hobbies, community service, ect.:	
Medical history, diseases, etc.:	
Other information:	





# Genealogy Software

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- <http://www.toptenreviews.com/software/home/best-genealogy-software/>
- Research differences
  - Does it have contemporary options?
  - Is it Aesthetically pleasing?
  - Does it support in program searches?
  - Does it connect with Ancestry?



# Evaluate complied information

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- Evaluate written and oral evidence
- Just because it is in print (or online, or what Grandma told you) doesn't make it true.
- Be wary of copying other's research
- Use primary sources the best you can(created by an eyewitness of an event)

# SPL Resources

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- Martin County Cemeteries, Marriages, Obituaries
- Martin County Census 1850, 60, 70, 80 and 1920
- Family histories
- Books



# Vital Records

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- Vital Records are civil records of birth, marriage, death, etc. (began mid 19 – early 20 century) Start with self.
- Birth Certificate: Full birth name, birth date, parents, their birthplaces
- Death Certificate: Name, place and cause of death, name of deceased parents, residence at time of death, date of death and burial date, name of informant, funeral home/cemetery.

# Vital Records

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- Marriage Records
- Visit local courthouse or use postal mail

## OTHER

- Social Security Death Index
- Church records



# IMPORTANT!

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- The Internet is not necessarily the best place to begin your family research.
  - Interview family members FIRST!
  - Collect documents (see previous slide)
- Remember that you will not be able to find everything online.

# What the Internet can offer:

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- Indexes and (some) vital statistics records
- Classified directories and collections of Web genealogical resources
- Personal family history pages posted by other researchers
- Genealogy discussion groups
- City, county and state genealogical or historical society pages
- Individual library websites with information about locations, schedules and holdings.



# What the Internet cannot offer:

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- Information about every family or ancestor – if no one has placed it online, it won't be there
- Accuracy or authenticity of the information found on any site – always look for documentations to support the information
- Original documents – although some items, like census records, can be viewed online and copied

## Also important to remember:

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- Always read over search tips or explore advanced search options
- Perform the same search on a couple of different sites
- **These tips will save you time and the aggravation of chasing wrong or incomplete information!**



# Ancestry

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- [Ancestrylibrary.com](http://Ancestrylibrary.com) – free access inside WCPL
  - Download and print forms
  - Has alphabetical “card catalog” of its databases
  - Every U.S. Federal Census between 1870-1930 is now searchable by everyone.
  - Cannot edit or create a family tree-must have personal subscription [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)

# Heritage Quest

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- [www.heritagequest.com](http://www.heritagequest.com) – Available at WCPL
  - Offers census
  - 25,000+ searchable family and local history books
  - Features PERSI, the periodical source index, which allows you to search for articles about people and places.
  - Offers Revolutionary War and Freedman's Bank databases.



# FamilySearch

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- [Familysearch.org](http://Familysearch.org) – free on the web
  - Access to records from around the world
  - Excellent for European research
  - A non-profit services sponsored by the Church of Jesus-Christ of Latter-day-Saints
  - Free registration is offered for the site, not required to register to search only
  - Allows you to add your family tree and make edits

# RootsWeb

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- [Rootsweb.com](http://Rootsweb.com) – free on the web
  - Oldest genealogy site on the web
  - User friendly
  - SSDI, Kentucky vital records index, some census images
  - Search family tree and suit your own
  - Search message boards and sign up for mailings.



# Ellis Island

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- [www.ellisisland.org](http://www.ellisisland.org)
- Immigrant passenger lists from post-1892 to 1924
- Excellent source for “new immigrant” research (Poles, Italians, Eastern Europeans)
- Website requires registration, but searching is free
- Make sure to perform your searches on [castlegarden.com](http://castlegarden.com) as well and then compare the results—they could be different!

# Cyndi's List

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- [www.cyndislist.com](http://www.cyndislist.com)
- A “card catalog” to the genealogical resources on the Internet
- A pathfinder that will point you in the direction of sites for topics that you need
- Lots of information divided into smaller, more specific categories for easier and more effective research



# Summary

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1. Record what you know – begin with YOU!
2. Read a how-to-book or website
3. Begin research at home
4. Look for compiled information
5. Research one ancestral line at a time
6. Obtain original records

# Teresa's American Revolution Ancestors

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- **4<sup>th</sup> GG Pvt Samuel Dunn 1754-1847 – served PA**
- 6<sup>th</sup> GG LtCol James Francis Steen 1734-1781 – served SC  
– died in the Battle at Kings Mountain
- 5<sup>th</sup> GG Pvt Isaac Dilley 1757-1827 – served PA
- 4<sup>th</sup> GG Pvt Conrad Westhofer 1737-1804 St. – served PA
- 5<sup>th</sup> GG Cpl James Carothers 1753-1834 – served NC
- **6<sup>th</sup> GG Capt. James Herndon 1737-1815 – served NC**
- **5<sup>th</sup> GG Thomas Brummett 1753-1842 – served VA**



# Teresa's Notable Ancestors

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- 10<sup>th</sup> GG Edward Kempe Digges 1620-1674 (1<sup>st</sup> Gov Col. VA)
- 7<sup>th</sup> GU Alexander Hamilton 1755-1801
- Process of Verification
  - Edward III, King of England 1312-1377 - reith 1327 - death
  - Vladimar I, Grand Prince of Kiev and all of Russia 958-1015 – reign 980 - death
  - Henry I, also called Henry the Fowler, German Heinrich der Vogler 876-936 – reign 919-May 936

# Three Generation Challenge!

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1. YOU!
  2. Your parents
  3. Your grandparents
- ✓ Birth, marriage, death certificates for each
  - ✓ Copies of obituary
  - ✓ Photos of each
  - ✓ Family group sheets.
  - ✓ Information sheet on living persons



# Thank you for attending!



WCPL

Friday, May 18, 2018

6:30-8:00 p.m.

Join us as Mr. Tim Phipps, president of the Wabash Valley Genealogical Society and acknowledged DNA expert as it relates to genealogy and family history, share a high level summary and in depth overview of the many different DNA tests available for genealogy.