



SSGHS Library is a FamilySearch Affiliate Library

As a FamilySearch Affiliate Library, the SSGHS Research Library gives you onsite access to more than two billion digitized records, including 400 million images not currently available to the public outside an Affiliate Library or a FamilySearch Family History Center. In addition, you get the helpful assistance of SSGHS volunteer library staff.

Information on FamilySearch Affiliate Libraries is at <https://www.familysearch.org/blog/en/familysearch-affiliate-library-faq/?cid=bl-fsb-8385>

LIBRARY HOURS

3000 West 170th Place
Hazel Crest, Illinois
708-335-3340

(door at west end of municipal building)

Ring library doorbell for access.

Monday:	10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Tuesday:	1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday:	10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Thursday:	CLOSED
Friday:	10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Saturdays:	
1st & 2nd	11:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
3rd, 4th, & 5th	CLOSED
Sunday:	CLOSED

FEBRUARY PROGRAM

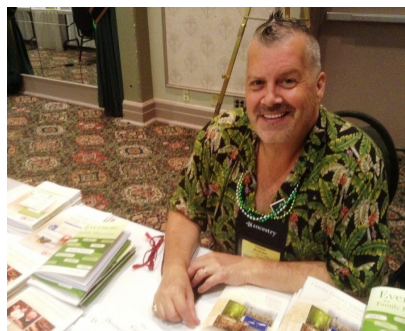
By Shirley Koelling

Webinar:

“Genealogy Pit Stop:
Research in 15 Minute
Increments”

February 8

What happens when a “tech guy” with a love for history gets laid off during The Great Recession of 2008? You get me, Thomas MacEntee, a genealogy professional who is also a blogger, educator, author, social media connector, marketer, network builder, and more.



I was laid off after a 25-year career in the information technology field, so I started building my own genealogy-related business called High Definition Genealogy. My articles and videos are free at Abundant Genealogy and I also run the popular Genealogy Bargains and DNA Bargains websites!

Sometimes known as “The King of Genealogy Webinars,” I can often be found presenting online education in a variety of formats. Webinars are a cost-effective and convenient way for your organization to share my knowledge with your members.

Legacy Family Tree provides live webinars as well as more than 1,000

previously recorded webinars in its library that you can watch on your home computer at your convenience.

Are you putting off researching an ancestor because you believe you need a two or three hour block? Learn how to use the Genealogy Pit Stop concept to succeed in the research race. ■

HOW TO FIND THE DOCUMENT YOU NEED ON Familysearch

By Donna Work

When you come into the SSGHS Library, you have access to primary documents that you may only see abstracted at home. You can search at home and print the abstracted record you want to see. Each record has Document Information printed on the right side of the page. That information is the secret to your search!

At the library, you can use your own laptop computer or the laptops that we have available for your use. You will need to bring a thumb drive to download your documents if you want to use the library computers. You sign into your familysearch account and then click on Catalog. There you can enter the Call Number or the Film/Fiche Number noted on the abstract. All the reels for a given database will show up, each with its own digital folder number, and they are not necessarily in consecutive order. So then, you use Ctrl+F to find the digital folder number you need. Once you have opened the images, you then plug in the image number recorded in the document information and Viola! You have the primary document you need.

Happy Hunting! We will see you in the Library!! ■

SSGHS News

SSGHS News (ISSN 0896-4408) is a benefit of membership, published monthly by **South Suburban Genealogical & Historical Society**. SSGHS and the Society's library serves south Cook and east Will Counties, Illinois. We are an Illinois not-for-profit corporation and a 501(c)(3) Tax Exempt Organization.

Telephone: (708) 335-3340
 Web Address: <http://www.ssghs.org>
 E-mail: info@ssghs.org

Research fee for a Librarian — \$20/hour
 (see website for Research Policy).

The Annual Membership year runs from September 1, 2019 through August 31, 2020. Dues are:

- Individual \$30.00
- Library or Society \$30.00
- Family (two people at same address) \$35.00
- Contributing \$40.00
- Supporting \$55.00

General Membership & Program Meetings are held the second Saturday of each month, except December and January, at the Society's headquarters, 3000 West 170th Place, Hazel Crest, in the Municipal Center building, which is located between Dixie Highway and Kedzie Avenue, and a half-mile north of 175th Street via California Avenue.

Newsletter submission deadline is each board meeting. We do not assume responsibility for errors, though we will attempt to correct them.

SSGHS News
 3000 West 170th Place
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MY CHALLENGE FOR 2020

By Kathy Wellington-Nassios

Is your research in as shabby a condition as mine? Files and boxes with handwritten notes, a dozen or so spiral notebooks with a page or two of research in each one, a few attempted colored and labeled files—and that is just the contents of the desk drawers! Now we go to the computer desktop with documents, images, photos, and a few failed attempts at organizing folders.

Well, the new year is upon us and there is no better time to look at this mess than now. I had a frightful thought – if anything happened to me, would my husband and son see this mess of “scrap” paper and discard more than 40 years of research?

So my New Year's resolution is to devote time to organization of my research on a weekly basis. Mind you, this is not DOING research, but taking the stuff I have already done. Here is what I have done so far:

1. I consolidated all my computer files from various computers and flash drives to one computer. (Note: BACK UP NOW)
2. I designated a color for each of my son's 4 grandparents (my son is the main person in my family research).
3. I made a file on my computer for each of his grandparents and I dug through each computer file and sorted the data into these 4 main surnames (and associated surnames). (Note: BACK UP NOW)
4. Now the hard part: I started renaming the files using this format—SURNAME—FIRSTNAME—BIRTH YEAR—RECORD TYPE (example: WELLINGTON CHARLES B1868—DEATH (for death certificate)).

5. I purchased high capacity flash drives in my 4 colors and before ending for each day, I BACK UP my changes to these drives.

Now for the sad part.....

As I rename the files I have found MANY duplicates (of course, each with a different file name). In one case I actually found 6 (six) copies of the same death certificate. Over the years I have only had time to research in fits and starts. Additionally, I stored my “finds” on various devices. I see now that without a consistent file naming convention I wasted so much research time finding the same documents over and over. I can only assume when I get to the paper files that I probably have old printed copies of documents as well.

So it has been a slow-going process. I am opening each document and updating my Family Tree Maker software as I go. And here is more sadness.....

I have all this information and a lot of it has never been entered into the software. That is because Research Is Fun and data entry is not. I am making use of the Research Journal built into FTM and adding things to my To Do list as I look at each record.

I have never purchased a subscription to Ancestry because I have been too busy to use it. But, partly because they offered such a great deal and partly because I have decided to finally dig into my most favorite hobby, I subscribed for 6 months. I have decided it will be a great reward to tell myself that for every hour I spend cleaning up my files, I can have a half hour of new research. So far it has worked.

I will try to keep you posted as to my progress. If you are attempting the same resolution or want to join in, please feel free to write up what you have been doing and we can share it in the newsletter. We need to encourage each other to keep at it and share tricks that help us.

Happy New Year to all of you! Kathy. ■

YOUR HELP IS URGENTLY NEEDED – CALLING ALL MEMBERS!!! Nominating Committee

The SSGHS Board of Directors is looking for a new slate of Officers and Directors. As of April 2020, we are looking to fill the following positions: President in charge of leadership and 2nd Vice-President in charge of membership. SSGHS has had two Co-Presidents and if a shared position would be more appealing to you, let us know. We would then need two volunteers for that position. There are also two open spaces on the Board of Directors. Directors support the Board by taking on tasks that officers need done. Board meetings take place in the library from 7:00 to 9:00 pm. on the Tuesday before the second Saturday of each month.

We especially need people comfortable with computer tasks, i.e. updating the SSGHS website (training is provided) and Microsoft Excel.

Sufficient volunteers are needed to maintain a genealogy society or it will be forced to disband in time, as so many have in recent years. None of us want to see this happen to SSGHS. With these departures, current Board members cannot take on their duties, too. The more volunteers that step forward, the less work for each one. Those who respond to the call will receive total support and guidance from the other officers and directors to help you transition into the position.

We hope that you will consider lending your talents to help us continue to navigate the future of our society going forward. So if you are interested in volunteering to serve as an officer or board member, or even as a volunteer please contact Donna Work, at workdm28@yahoo.com.

Donna Work and Carole Magnuson. ■

LIBRARY NEWS

By Paula Malak

A BIG thank-you to these people who volunteered to cut down the many magazine boxes which were too tall to fit on our shelves. Karen Flieth-Hyatte volunteered her husband, Gene Korzenko said he would help, and Mike Kotlowski and his daughter beat the other two volunteers to the punch and finished them all in just a week! We are very grateful to all of them for being willing to help out. ■

DNA SIG???????

By Paula Malak

DNA is a hot topic these days and I started to wonder if there would be any interest in forming a DNA Special Interest Group. I see it as a group for people with any level of interest in the subject – a group to get together to ask questions, share ideas, and just generally discuss the mysteries of DNA. It could form itself with a moderator or a member could act as leader for a particular topic. Organization, including frequency of meetings, would be decided by the group.

If this is of interest to you, please let me know soon. Actually, today would be a good time to e-mail me at palamala@comcast.net to tell me that you think this is a great idea and would like to be part of that group. If there is sufficient interest, I will present it to the Board at their next meeting and the DNA SIG will be good to go. ■



FEBRUARY CALENDAR

Saturday, February 1
SSGHS Library open
from 11:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Tuesday, February 4
SSGHS Board of Directors Meeting
at 7:00 p.m. — All members welcome.
SSGHS Library open
from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Saturday, February 8
10:00 a.m.—General Membership Meeting.
Program: *Genealogy Pit Stop: Research in
15 Minute Increments* – Thomas MacEntee.
SSGHS Library open
from 11:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Friday, February 14
St. Valentine's Day.
SSGHS Library open
from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Saturday, February 15
SSGHS Library closed.

Monday, February 17
Presidents' Day.
Washington's Birthday observed.
SSGHS Library closed.

Thursday, February 20
Writer's Group, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.
SSGHS Library closed.

Saturday, February 22
SSGHS Library closed.

Wednesday, February 26
Ash Wednesday.
SSGHS Library open
from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

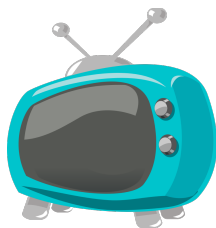
Saturday, February 29
In observance of Leap Year.
SSGHS Library closed. ■



FEBRUARY 2020

TV SHOW REVIEW: "The Repair Shop" on Netflix By Kathy Wellington-Nassios

As genealogists who delve into history and especially that of our families, we understand the importance of family heirlooms. Those of us who own them, treasure them.



Those who have other family members who own them may wish they were theirs. If these sentimental objects are damaged or become damaged it can be devastating.

Netflix is currently running the British television show "The Repair Shop". There are two seasons with a total of 31 episodes. We watch as the professional restorers—woodworkers, clock restorer, paint conservator, china restorer, metal-worker, electronics expert, soft toy restorers, and others—take much loved damaged heirlooms and apply their years of knowledge to bringing them back to life. It is truly magical.

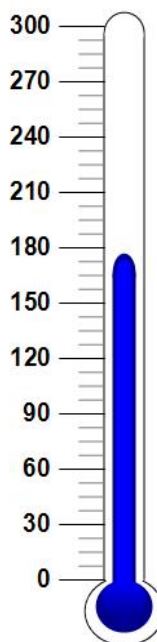
The stories are wonderful and uplifting. Watch an episode and I know you will agree with me.

Do not have Netflix? I understand there

are some episodes on YouTube, however you need a special player to watch these British TV shows. It appears there are apps you can pay for that will allow you to view them, but I do not know more than that.

If you find any television shows or podcasts that you think other genealogists would enjoy, please write a review for this newsletter. ■

2019-2020 Membership



177

UPCOMING PROGRAMS:

February 8 – Webinar "Genealogy Pit Stop: Research in 15 Minute Segments" by Tom MacEntee.

March 14 – Show and Tell.

April 18 – "Pandemics, Epidemics, and Diseases" by Peg Kapustiak.

May 9 – SSGHS Birthday – "Terminal City: Chicago's Passenger Stations in the Golden Era of Rail" by David Clark.

June 13 – "Finding Your Catholic Ancestors" by Ginger Frere.

July 11 – "DNA Painter" by Jason Kruski.

August 8 – T.B.A.

September 12 – T.B.A.

October 10 – "Mayflower Anniversary" by Jenny Warner.

Happy Winter!