



## MARCH 2017

### IN THIS ISSUE.....

Directors Corner.....	Elder and Sister Erickson
On "Ancestral Awe" .....	Emil Hanson
CLASS SCHEDULE and ON-LINE REGISTRATION.....	Stephen Felt
7 FamilySearch Record Collections You Shouldn't Miss...	Leslie Albrecht Huber
Introducing BillionGraves Tree.....	James Tanner
Temple and Family History Callings.....	First Presidency
Changes for Temple and Family History Consultants.....	James Tanner

## Directors Corner

*Elder and Sister Erickson*

You felt the serious responsibility of connecting your family through the priesthood and preserving your family history stories, if you attended the Ogden FamilySearch Library's quarterly Family History Lecture on January 21, 2017.

Armel O. Beardall, formerly a seminary teacher for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and world-wide director of human resources for 87 countries, spoke to a very interested Library audience on the Doctrinal Basis of Family History and Genealogy. He reminded us that we don't know how long we have to do this work, and recited part of a poem that says:

"The clock of life is wound but once,  
And no man has the power,  
To tell just when the hands will stop,  
At late or early hour."

He explained the difference between genealogy and family history-genealogy is the enumeration of ancestors and their children in natural order or succession. It is by pedigree or regular descent. Family history, on the other hand, is a narration, account

or chronicle of circumstances. Genealogy is always part of family history, but the reverse is not true.

He emphasized the importance of this work, by pointing that one of the first doctrines the angel Moroni taught to the prophet Joseph Smith was to refer him to Malachi's Old Testament promise that "Behold, I will reveal unto you the priesthood by the hand of Elijah the prophet", and that the prophet Elijah was to plant in the hearts of the children the promises made to their fathers. (*See D&C 2:1-3 and 138:47.*)

We inherit an important responsibility-to make sure our priesthood connection to our ancestors through temple ordinances is secure, as well as to preserve family histories. This family history research provides the emotional bridge between generations. He quoted from Elder Dennis Neuenschwander in April General Conference, 1999: "Family history research provides the emotional bridge between the generations. Temple ordinances provide the priesthood bridge. Temple ordinances are the priesthood ratification of the connection that we have already established in our hearts."

Brother Beardall emphasized the importance of knowing our ancestors beyond the ordinance work with a quote from President Smith: "[I]t remains the responsibility of each individual to know his kindred dead.... Even if the work is done, then it is still each person's responsibility to study and become acquainted with his ancestors." (*President Joseph Fielding Smith, Hearts Turned to the Fathers: A History of the Genealogical Society of Utah, 1894-1994 (1995), pp.184.*)

We need to write down family stories, Brother Beardall said, and quoted again from Elder Neuenschwander, when he said that "A life that is not documented is a life that within a generation or two will largely be lost to memory."

## On "Ancestral Awe"

-- Emil Hanson

As young parents we loved each of our six children as they became a part of the family. As they grew and eventually married we became grandparents; grand parenting not only expanded our family but it expanded our capacity to love. The family is God's basic organization, established by Him, to transition His spirit children from their pre-earth existence to this beautiful and wondrous earth we live on. The purpose is to provide each of us an opportunity to experience earth as part of our eternal and progressive educational experience. The family, both the immediate and the extended, are responsible to love, nurture and protect each child as they arrive from that sphere.

As young parents, then grandparents and eventually great grandparents, we gathered them to our home every Sunday afternoon after church. As we did, they not only grew in number but in maturity; it could hardly be "a more merry time" and relationship.

There were great meals by grandma, nature hikes around the neighborhood with grandpa, often with one sitting on his shoulders, discovering different bugs, funny shaped rocks, leaves and sticks for their collections. There were stories read from storybooks, games of all kinds, picture puzzles, and candy houses made with gingerbread and frosting, Birthday celebrations with the older ones chasing the younger ones around for a birthday spank along with their squeals and laughter, sleigh riding and snowball fights in the winter. As they left in the evening, not-one got away without a hug a kiss and an "I love you". Now that our children are grandparents, and even great grandparents, we have become old, they are carrying on the tradition of family togetherness as we did.

One of the wonderful collateral blessings of descendency research is what we have learned about many of our ancestors and their families. For example; my great, great grandfather John H. Fairbanks was a fur trader, for the American Fur Co. in the Northwest Territory. He was assigned to various winter trading posts at several different locations in what is now known as Minnesota. He traded blankets, cooking utensils, tools and yarn to the Chippewa and Sioux Indians for beaver pelts. The natives were excellent trappers and they trapped beavers when their winter fur was thick and soft. He and his half breed native wife had eleven children. Her native name was Sha-gaun-aush-equay, meaning 'English Woman' because her father was John Sayer, an Englishman, who became a famous trader and later a partner in the American Fur Company. Her English name was Mary Sayer,

Her mother was the daughter of a Chippewa Chief. Together John and Mary Fairbanks had eleven children, all born and raised among the natives in the wilderness under harsh conditions. When the government negotiated with the native chief's to buy and take over most of their native lands they arranged to put the Indians on reservations. The Fairbanks families, raised with the natives, moved to the reservation with them. As John Fairbanks became old he was known on the reservation as 'Ke-chi-mo-komon-ah-ke-wen-zie' Fairbanks, the name meaning, 'old wrinkled white skin'. John was eighty two (1798-1880) when he died and he was buried on the White Earth Indian Reservation in Minnesota with his family. In the book, "History of the Fairbanks Family" it is said of John H. Fairbanks that; "He was known to every Chippewa Indian in the Minnesota Territory, and was master of the Indian languages. He was a man of high moral worth, strictly temperate in his habits, charitable to a fault and noted for his tender affection for his children. He was the soul of honor, and it has often been said that he had not an enemy in the world." I have 'Ancestral awe' for my GG grandfather John H. Fairbanks who, like myself, had tender affection for his children. His posterity is enormous with thousands of Fairbanks related families living in the state of Minnesota today.

Many people involved in family research are trying to take their 'family name' back to 500 A.D. and royalty. However, the church has advised us to do Descendency Research instead, starting with ourselves and going back family by family, sealing

them together as complete families as we find them. For we know how much love there must have been in each of those family organizations because of our own love for family. We have, and are being very successful by using the wonderful technology that the Church is providing. New and useful programs are being added on a regular basis so that families can be found...even those of long ago. We all have the capacity to love even those we have never personally met, as we research and find out about them, we may even be in 'awe' of them.

## Ogden FamilySearch Library CLASS SCHEDULE and ON-LINE REGISTRATION

The Ogden FamilySearch Library offers a host of classes each month. You may view a current schedule and register for classes on-line. Simply go to [ogdenfsl.org](http://ogdenfsl.org), click on "**CLASSES**".

### CLASSES

Classes are available at the Ogden FamilySearch Library.

If you need help, you may call 801-626-1132.



**Options**

Adults:  Youths:  Group Activities:

Category:

Course:

Teacher:

Room:

**Date and time**

All times shown are in US Mountain timezone

Date	Classes	Teacher	Room	Available	Total		
<b>January 2017</b>							
Tuesday, 17 January 2017 11:00 AM	Iranview Image Capturing	Allen Hardison	13	13		<a href="#">Info</a>	<a href="#">BOOK</a>
Tuesday, 17 January 2017 6:00 PM	Iranview Image Capturing	Allen Hardison	13	14		<a href="#">Info</a>	<a href="#">BOOK</a>
Thursday, 19 January 2017 9:30 AM	American Research	Karen White	15	9	\$2	<a href="#">Info</a>	<a href="#">BOOK</a>

A list of **classes by date and time** is immediately visible.

**For an alphabetical listing of classes:** Under "Options" click on "Course" and select the course topic that interests you.

**Information about a class** is available by clicking on. The information includes the level (beginning, intermediate or advanced), number of sessions and course description.

**To register or book a class** click on the "**BOOK**" icon. A booking confirmation will be e-mailed to you. You will also receive an e-mail reminder a few days before the class starts.

## 7 FamilySearch Record Collections You Shouldn't Miss

*-- Leslie Albrecht Huber*

The wealth of records on FamilySearch is constantly growing-sometimes so quickly that even experienced researchers aren't aware of everything that's available. There's no way one article could cover all of FamilySearch's record collections. Instead, I've chosen to highlight a few of the most exciting collections: some are newly released and growing collections, and some are tried and true collections. (If you didn't know record collections could be exciting, that's because you haven't tried these yet!)

### 1. Italian Civil Registration Records

Civil registration records, which are vital records kept by the government, are some of the most important records for discovering families in Italy. These birth, marriage, and death records as well as unique state of the family records as early as 1806 and can provide details needed to link families together. Although this collection is still a work in progress, there are already many of these records online, and FamilySearch currently has 25 cameras filming more. Only a small percentage of these records have been indexed so far, but many are available for browsing. Choose Italy from the map, and type in your ancestor's hometown, or use the box under "Find a Collection." Check back often as more records are being added all the time.

### 2. US Marriages Records

At RootsTech in 2016, FindMyPast announced the US Marriages Project, a partnership with FamilySearch, which will be the largest collection of US marriage records in history. This will be done by digitizing and indexing marriage records covering 350 years for over 2,800 US counties and will include 450 million names. Although the collection will be found in its entirety only on FindMyPast and on FamilySearch for LDS members with FamilySearch accounts and at family history centers around the world, many US marriage records are already digitized, indexed, and available for everyone at FamilySearch. Try searching for marriage records in your ancestor's county to see what's available. If you don't find what you're looking for now, try again in a few months since this collection is still growing.

### 3. Freedmen's Bureau Records

Just last summer, FamilySearch, in conjunction with the National Archives and

Records Administration, the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture, the Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society, and the California African American Museum, completed the Freedmen's Bureau Project in which included indexing and making available online the genealogically important portions of the records of the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands, commonly known as the Freedmen's Bureau. Created in the aftermath of the Civil War, the Freedmen's Bureau helped the recently freed slaves adjust to their new lives. The records include nearly 1.8 billion names in marriage, hospital, school, and land records as well as labor contracts, affidavits, letters and other items. Although their usefulness extends to anyone with ancestors in the South in that period, they are particularly valuable in helping descendants of slaves link back to the pre-Civil War era.

#### **4. Census Records (US and Beyond)**

Anyone tracing their US family needs to know that FamilySearch has the indexed US census records-the most used collection on FamilySearch. US Census records began in 1790 and are available through 1940 (later census records are still protected by privacy laws). These aren't the only census records available on FamilySearch; the index for the British censuses are also available here; although, to see the actual images, you will need to go to FindMyPast where fees may apply. Other countries, such as Canada, Argentina, Denmark, the Netherlands and some states in Germany kept at least periodic census records that are now available at FamilySearch as well. Many US states also took occasional censuses. To see what FamilySearch has, type "census" in the search box for the historical records collections.

#### **5. FindAGrave and Billion Graves**

You may be familiar with these popular, free websites that help you locate cemetery information about your ancestor. But did you know that FamilySearch has these records on its website too? A search for your ancestor in FamilySearch can bring up a possible match with basic information. To learn more and possibly see a photo of your ancestor's headstone, follow the link from the search results to the free site.

#### **6. Social Security Death Index**

For important leads on more recent ancestors, the Social Security Death Index is a great place to start. It includes information on deceased people who had social security numbers. The earliest records date to 1937 but records are sparse until 1962. You can find records dating up until three years ago. Records often include birth and death dates and the last place of residence that was on file with the Social Security Administration.

#### **7. England and Germany Vital Records Collections**

For Germany, FamilySearch has records for births and baptisms, 1558-1898; deaths and burials, 1582-1958; and marriages, 1558-1929. For England, FamilySearch has records for births and christenings, 1538-1975; deaths and burials, 1538-1991; and marriages, 1538-1973. I've lumped these all together since they come from a similar background. The important things to know about these collections is that they are

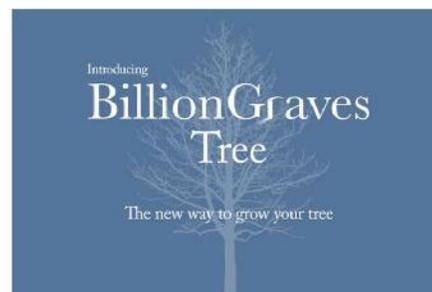
huge-the Germany births and baptism collection alone contains 45 million names-but they aren't anywhere close to complete. This means that the records don't contain all the information in that category in that country. Many of these records came from the LDS Church's extraction program and were previously part of the massive IGI (International Genealogical Index). Information often came from church records but is generally found in these collections only as extracted records, without images available.

Of course, this is only scratching the surface of what's available. Try a search for your ancestor to look at all possible indexed matches or refine your search further by searching a particular record collection. With billions of names in just in the collections described here, chances are good you'll find something new about your family!

## Introducing BillionGraves Tree

-- James Tanner

One of the major benefits of going to the RootsTech Conference over the years has been the opportunity to meet and get to know some of the genealogy software developers from around the world. I have known the developers of BillionGraves.com for the past few years and watched the website grow from a small and interesting website into the huge, online genealogical powerhouse that it is today.



Using the BillionGraves.com website, the employees and staff of MyHeritage.com will sometime this year (2017) finish digitizing the grave markers of all the cemeteries in Israel. At the end of this project, Israel will become the first country in the world to have all of their cemeteries online and digitized. See "We're Halfway to Digitizing Every Cemetery in Israel."

Now, BillionGraves.com has added a new tool for those who have their genealogy on the FamilySearch.org Family Tree. This tool is the BillionGraves Tree. The BillionGraves Tree connects to your family tree and automatically searches billions of records to find the headstones for your ancestors.

The program is designed to soon work with both MyHeritage.com and Findmypast.com. Essentially, the BillionGraves Tree links to your FamilySearch.org Family Tree and automatically searches for grave marker information in its vast database and then allows you to add the information from the grave markers with the digitized photo with a few clicks.

The BillionGraves Tree is one of the free services from the company.

## Temple and Family History Callings

-at LDS.org

The First Presidency has recently approved a change to the names of all family history callings in the Church. Going forward, all members serving in a family history role should be called temple and family history consultants (Notice to General Authorities; Area Seventies; Stake, Mission, and District Presidents; Bishops and Branch Presidents, dated February 9, 2017). This change was made to more closely align family history and temple service. President Gordon B. Hinckley has said, "All of our vast family history endeavor is directed to temple work. There is no other purpose for it. The temple ordinances become the crowning blessings the Church has to offer" ("New Temples Provide the 'Crowning Blessings' of the Gospel," Ensign, May 1998, 88).

To this end it is expected that all temple and family history consultants, whether at the ward, stake, or area level, have as their primary responsibility the opportunity to assist members with a personalized one-on-one family history.

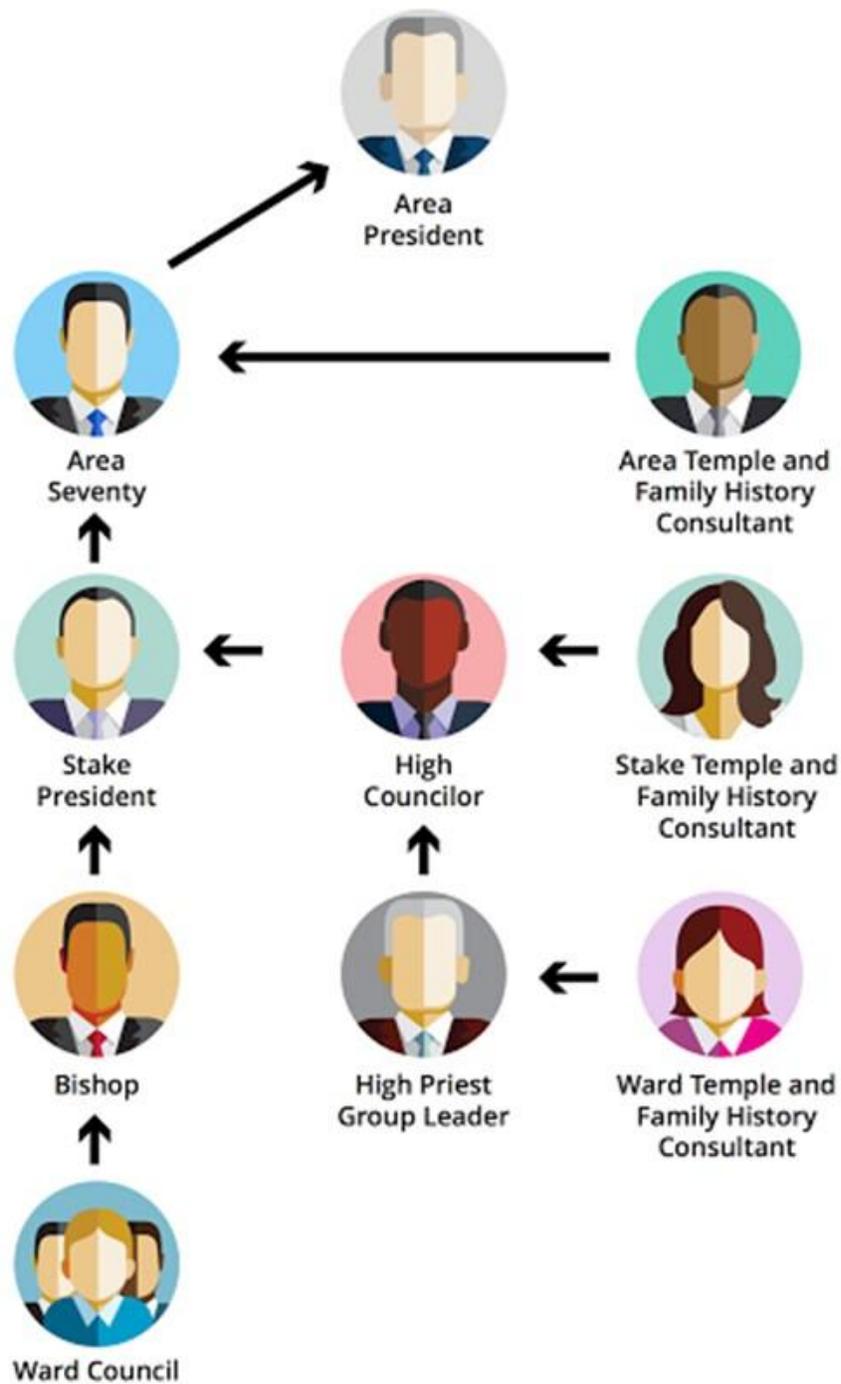
## Basic Changes for Temple and Family History Consultants

- James Tanner

The formerly called "Family History Consultants" have now been renamed "Temple and Family History Consultants" but the change involves much more than simply a change in names. The basic organization has also been changed. There are now callings at the Ward, Stake, and Area level.

The Area Temple and Family History Consultants have the responsibility to teach the Stake Temple and Family History Consultants, who in turn should be teaching the Stake level officers and the Ward Temple and Family History Consultants. Then the Ward Temple and Family History Consultants should be teaching the Ward officers. The change involves adding a Stake Temple and Family History Consultants calling. In addition, the Temple and Family History Consultants can be called to a specific calling as Stake Family History Center Directors or as Stake Indexing Directors.

Please pass this along to any who need to know about these changes. Here is the basic organizational chart as shown on LDS.org. See Callings-Organizations.



© 2017 by Intellectual Reserve, Inc. All rights reserved. English approval: 2/17, FC06000575

STAY CONNECTED:



Ogden FamilySearch Library, 539 24th Street, Ogden, UT 84401

[SafeUnsubscribe™ {recipient's email}](#)

[Forward this email](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [About our service provider](#)

Sent by [clschmalz@gmail.com](mailto:clschmalz@gmail.com) in collaboration with



Try it free today