

Barbara Coakley



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Bio

Barbara Coakley's interest in her family history began over 30 years ago when she was given an envelope of family papers. Her journey to discover the stories of her ancestors has taken her to homelands across the US and Europe. Barbara is Vice President of Genealogy Friends of Plano Libraries and edits their newsletter. She is an alumni of ProGen, IGHR, TIGR, GRIP, SLIG and NIGR. Barbara has been teaching genealogy classes at Collin College since 2008 and has done presentations for a number of genealogy societies in North Texas, Washington, Illinois and England.

Presentations

Extra, Extra, Read All About Your Ancestors – Newspapers are so much more than just obituaries and marriage notices, they can provide details about the lives of your ancestors that can't be found anywhere else. Learn about what newspapers have to offer and where to find them.

Search vs. Research – Searching is just one step in the process of researching your family history. A case study based on a family story from Chicago in the 1920's demonstrates the research process from beginning to end - how to develop a research goal, plan the research, document results, and preserve your findings.

Organizing Genealogy Stuff – A proven system for keeping yourself, keepsakes, research results, and reference materials organized.

Digging Up Deeds – U.S. Land records are some of the earliest and most complete records available. They contain clues to relationships, economic standing, migration, and much more. This presentation focuses on transactions between individuals and uses case studies to demonstrate how to find and understand different types of deeds.

Go West, Leaving Kansas to Homestead in California – A homestead case study is used to demonstrate how events and circumstances impact the lives of a couple and where to find information about more than just names, dates and places.

Using Microsoft OneNote for Genealogy Research Planning and Results – Microsoft OneNote is an electronic notebook. Learn how to replace the three ring binders on the shelf with an electronic notebook. Research plans, research results, and reference materials are stored digitally and are searchable.

Research the Location First - Before you start researching your ancestors you need to understand the location and time period where they lived. Learn about sources for information about records, historic events, and more to create a location guide.

Branching Out: Researching Collateral Ancestors – Records exist for siblings, cousins, and in laws that can help fill in gaps in records for direct line ancestors. Using case studies we'll explore expanding research to other family members to answer research questions.

Death Records – Beyond a death certificate we'll explore other records that can provide details about our ancestors' passing.