

Genealogy Starts with a Question: Beginning Family History Research

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Getting Started

- You
 - What do you know about your background?
 - What do you know about your parents, siblings, aunts, uncles, and grandparents?
- Family
 - Go to your family for help
 - Who?
 - What about Cousin Jane I haven't seen in 20 years?
- Family Documents
 - Find and use your family's documents
 - Bibles
 - Birth Certificates
 - Death Certificates
 - Marriage Certificates
 - Letters
 - Diaries

Tree and Charts

- www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Genealogy_Research_Forms (free)

Mixing the Information

- Information from family
 - Study the information
 - Decide if it is proved information or hearsay
- Family documents
 - Use family documents to prove information from oral histories and family stories
- Compare
 - Compare the information
 - If family documents do not prove or disprove oral histories and family stories,
RESEARCH
- RESEARCH!
 - Start online.

Where to Start Online

- Ancestry - www.ancestry.com (paid)*
- Family Search - www.familysearch.org (free)
- Find My Past - www.findmypast.com (paid)*

Genealogy@ACPL.Info

(260)421-1225

- MyHeritage - www.myheritage.com (paid)*

Newspapers Online

- GenealogyBank - www.genealogybank.com (paid)*
- Newspapers.com - www.newspapers.com (paid)*
- NewspaperArchive – www.newspaperarchive.com (paid)*
- Chronicling America – chroniclingamerica.loc.gov (free)
- Elephind - www.elephind.com (free)
- The Ancestor Hunt - www.theancestorhunt.com/newspaper-research-links.html (free)

Military Records Online

- Fold3 - www.fold3.com (paid)*
- National Archives - www.archives.gov (free)
- Civil War Database - www.nps.gov/civilwar/soldiers-and-sailors-database.htm (free)

More Online Sources!

- U.S. GenWeb Project - www.usgenweb.org (free)
- Allen County Public Library Genealogy Center - www.Genealogycenter.org (free)
- One-Step Portal for On-Line Genealogy - www.stevemorse.org (free)
- Cyndi's List - www.cyndislist.com (free)

My Greatest Tip - Get Creative!

- Brick wall = new places to look
- Google search, GOOGLE SEARCH, GOOGLE SEARCH!!!!
- Go places, call places, and email places.
 - Cemeteries are great sources of information
 - Historical Societies, Libraries, Genealogical Societies, Archives, Churches, Prisons, and Children Advocacy Groups
- Utilize the libraries, historical societies, and genealogical societies!!!
 - Newsletters
 - Message boards or forums
 - Research facilities
 - Assistance in research
- ASK FOR HELP!

Organization

- For Software you buy
- www.toptenreviews.com/best-genealogy-websites
- For free Software
- thegenealogyguide.com/6-best-free-genealogy-software-downloads
- My favorite free family tree site
www.tribalpages.com

*Free at any location of the Allen County Public Library

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