

Janet Hovorka Lectures

To schedule a workshop or lecture for your group, email Janet at janethovorka@gmail.com

Voila: Professional Charts to Impress Your Clients & Family

If clients and family members aren't clamoring for more, you're not showing it off effectively. Come learn advanced tools for visual presentation--the most powerful communication tool for the genealogist.

Zap the Grandma Gap: The Ten Best Ideas for Youth and Family History

The 10 most important ideas to connect to your posterity by connecting them to their past. If they don't like family history you are doing it wrong. This class will take you from snoring and boring to exciting and inviting.

Family History Adhesive: The Science of Why History Binds Families and the Simple Tech of How to Do It

Family history has proven to be the key to strong family relationships now and the emotional health of future generations. The transmission of family history is a personal way to pass on family values, learn from the consequences of decisions and figure out how to overcome the challenges of life. We'll survey the psychology community's studies of intergenerational transmission which have found that the shared family narrative is a source of strength and resilience that binds family members together with a common story. Then we'll talk about using the communication tools we already access every day in a family history oriented way. You'll leave with a plan for making your family history fun and strengthening your current family relationships.

Where To Start When You Get Stuck?

How do you know if you've come to a real brick wall? Who can help you when you come to a brick wall? How do you hire professional help and what can a professional do for you when you already have tried everything out there? Does a professional genealogist really know more than I do about this problem? Are they worth the money?

6 Steps to Choreograph Your Research Across the Internet

Learn how to correlate your research between the big family history sites. Top research strategies for beginners and intermediate genealogists in a language that beginners can understand. This lecture is a product of my bi-polar genealogist nature—footnote nerd and newbie cheerleader. You can become an expert researcher and quickly document your family's history online with six simple tips for working with multiple family history websites.

Panning for Gold: Online Genealogy Education

Survey the similarities and differences between the family history instruction opportunities you can participate in while still wearing your slippers. Everything from college credit full course materials to short webinars and youtube videos await your exploration. You'll learn where to go to find the instruction to fit your needs. Sometimes breaking through that tough family history problem just takes a little more genealogical knowledge. No matter what your skill level is now, you can find quality family history instruction that is accessible whenever your schedule allows.

Post It Forward: Archiving Lessons From My Great-Grandfather's Family History Records

What happens over three generations to the family history records in a family? And what will happen to your records over the next three generations in your family? My Great-Grandfather did his best to preserve his records for coming generations but he couldn't foresee the iPad and YouTube generation. Likewise you can't see into the future but there are measures you can take now to help make sure your Great-Great-Great-Grandchildren can learn about their heritage.

Nature & Nurture: Family History for Adoptees

Genealogy best practices for adoptees. Biological “nature” family history, enhanced by careful use of DNA testing, can help adoptees better understand their biological origin. The adoptive family’s history can help explain the formative “nurture” foundation of an adoptee’s life.

18 Genealogy Contests to Play with Family Online

If you are connected with your cousins, siblings and/or children online, you can find new ways to share and record your family story by making it a game. Come learn 18 activities that will get your family talking, make them laugh and help them feel part of your family story.

New Genealogy Business Classes:

How Are Professional Genealogists Perceived and What Do We Need To Do About It?

The results of a 6 month study about the market perception of professional genealogists led to some surprising and informative results. There are major implications for the genealogy market surrounding how professional genealogists are viewed by hobbyists in the industry. Join us for a discussion about how to deal with these general perceptions and what professional researchers can do to create more demand for their services. If we can each take specific steps to change the way our profession is viewed, we can grow the market and improve our individual businesses.

Get Lean to Make More Green Workshop: Lean Startup Practices and Procedures For Your Business

Lean innovation is changing the way companies create healthy businesses--especially in genealogy. In this workshop you'll learn to test your new ideas to reduce waste and create success. We will help you analyze your business assumptions and correctly measure your processes so that you can pivot until you find sustainable growth. Bring a notebook and be prepared to discuss your business challenges in small groups to gain new ideas from your colleagues.

DNA in the Wild West: Managing Adoptees Expectations and Supporting Their Emotional Journey

This lecture will focus on what happens in adoptive and biological families AFTER the big reveal. Genealogists with new DNA technology wield great power in families that contain adoptions, yet very few genealogists are taking into account the long term ramifications and the lives that are affected by this important work. In order to avoid problems, genealogy professionals need to understand the emotional journey of the people that they work with and how to best support them through the whole process.

Best loved classics that get better each time:

Grandma’s Bullet Proof Vest: Why Your Children Need You To Do Family History

Why would your children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews want to know about their family’s heritage? And how do you share it with them so that they are interested? The scientifically proven benefits illustrated in this class include emotional healing from understanding the past, inspiration from knowing the greatness in your heritage, the perspective of knowing what was sacrificed for you, and knowing you are part of a greater whole as well as higher intelligence, greater resilience and stronger modern relationships. Family History is a gold mine for parenting and grandparenting. You are going to want to go home and start sharing.

Zap the Grandma Gap: Leave a Heritage Workshop

How do you leave a heritage for your descendants? Based on the book and workbook **Zap The Grandma Gap Power Up Workbook: The Particulars About How To Connect To Your Family By Connecting Them To Their Family History**, (www.zapthegrandmagap.com) we’ll work together to

brainstorm about what will work in your family. Power up with the group and let's figure out together how to raise the next generation of grounded and inspired family historians.

Grand Pop Culture: Creating A Culture of Family History in Your Family And Your Home

Teach your family about their family history in a painless way by just breathing it into the life around you. The next generation can learn about their past simply in the way that you live. Give them all the soul satisfying benefits of knowing where they came from and build strong family relationships with a strong family narrative.

In-laws and Outlaws: The Bylaws of Teaching Youth About The Family Skeletons

Sharing your family history can strengthen your youth and give them scaffolding for the future but every family has a few sticking points. So it is all in the way you frame it. Here are some rules for making sure your family learns from the past and proceeds forward into the future in a healthy way.

Trip the Tree Fantastic: Intriguing Family History Trips for the Whole Family

How do you prepare, organize and execute a family history trip for your family members so that they will enjoy the ride? These are the people who should care, how do you get them there?

The Cool Parts of Family History: Engaging My Teenagers.

The adventures and pratfalls of how it went when I tried to engage my teenagers in family history. Come be inspired by what might work with your kids. Get prepared to reach the toughest crowd in your family.

The Mother of Connection: How my mother turned her children into genealogists and how you can too.

This class will cover tons of ideas for creating excitement in your family about the people who came before. We'll discuss activities and give resources for involving all ages. We'll also talk about how to surround yourself with various reminders of your heritage to encourage curiosity in the family, and give a sense of perspective. You can create a feeling of belonging in your family members by sharing with them where they come from.

Grandpa's on my Ipad: Sharing your Family History with your Family Using Social Networking

Now that you have collected your family's history, what are you going to do with it? This class will cover tons of ideas for creating excitement in your family about the people who came before. Inspire your kids by hitting them where they live. Using social networking such as blogging, podcasts, facebook, and twitter, you can share your family's history with the next generation of your family to create a feeling of belonging and a sense of grounding in their roots.

Playground Rules for Genealogy on the Internet.

The internet creates an exciting gathering place where we can find distant cousins and fast friends to help us research our family tree. It's never too late to play by the rules and have fun. Be sure to follow these three basic safety rules and you'll have a great time.

Beyond Scotch Tape: Charts To Fascinate Your Family.

If your family isn't interested, you're not showing it off right. The visual presentation of a family's history is the most powerful communication tool for the genealogist. Charts can display what you have accomplished and explain your research to others by location, relationships and timelines. This class will teach easy ways to create various kinds of charts, large and small, and how you can use each type of chart to enhance your research.

Basic Research Practices in the Age of Internet Genealogy.

Grounding yourself in the foundations of good research can help you be a more effective genealogist whether in the library or on the internet. We'll discuss primary and secondary information, original and derivative records and how to track your research effectively. Now source centrality is more important than ever and so are your methods for citing sources. And now that you can work on the Mega-Uber Database, do you need your own copy and how do you keep your own copy without laborious syncing?

Where to start when your genealogy is all "done"

It's never all "done"—but where do you start? This is the class for those with “burned over district” lines that have been researched by grandparents, aunts, and etc. and need to know how to get started. We will cover: analyzing and compiling the information, finding fruitful places to work on researching more people, and making sure you aren't the weak link in passing it down to your descendants. You can still enjoy the great benefits of family history work—now more than ever--even if your ancestors were all great genealogists.

Advocating Genealogy: Overcoming the Issues of the New Genealogist.

Sometimes the collision of new, seasoned, and professional genealogists can make each of the parties uncomfortable. Please join us for a discussion about the barriers in the genealogy community for the new user and how the community can embrace the differences between different levels of genealogists. We can figure out together how to make the genealogy hobby attractive and embrace all people in the endeavor to find our common roots.

Let's Get This Party Started: Family History Conferences for the Whole Family.

Throw out your ideas of what a family history conference is and come look outside the box. Everyone is interested in their family history if it is presented right. Let's rethink how to run a family history event.

Double Your Membership, Double Your Fun: The UGA Case Study

The Utah Genealogical Association doubled its membership in 2011 by making itself vital and vibrant to the genealogy community. Come see what worked for us and what might work for your society.

Apples and Oranges: How the Genealogy Softwares Create Charts:

Come take a look at how different the genealogy software creating tools are. There are advantages and features in each program that will help you show off your family history research. Take a look and see which features you need to display your family history in a beautiful way.

Abracadabra Interactive Family History Charts With Prezi

Learn how to make a digital interactive family history chart with the free online Prezi website. Harvest the power of flexible visualization to show off artifacts, documents and images to engage your family members near and far.

Fun Family History Activities for the Youth at Your Family Reunion

Shake up your family reunion with meaningful activities that will be fun for the whole family. Come learn about games and activities that will get your family talking, make them laugh and help them feel part of the bigger whole.

Presto Chango: Turn Your Family History Into A Coloring Book Workshop--Computer Lab Workshop

Bring 5 fun family stories, a five generation pedigree chart and a few family images and you can turn your family history into a coloring/workbook for you to share with the younger members of your family. Great for family reunions or for gifts, we'll help you easily tell the story of your family in a fun and engaging way.