

## **FamilySearch HWWWWW**

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This class explains:

**How** FamilySearch can help you with your Family History

**What** FamilySearch is

**When** you should you use FamilySearch

**Why** you should you use FamilySearch

**Where** to find FamilySearch

**Who** benefits from using FamilySearch

The goal is to teach class members how to navigate and use the FamilySearch site. And, to enable them to find help on their own when they have questions.

**Familysearch.org** is the web address for FamilySearch, the largest genealogy organization in the world. The site is free and among the most heavily used genealogy sites on the Internet. It contains over 4 billion names, billions of digital images and indexes of records from all over the world, plus a Wiki with nearly 86,000 articles on genealogical topics.

### **FamilySearch has:**

- Features that enable you to collaborate with others in building a family tree
- Billions of records from around the world
- Wiki, which provides genealogical “how to” articles, historical information, maps, links to thousands of other genealogy sites and databases, plus more
- The ability for users to add and preserve Memories such as photos, stories, documents, and audio recordings
- An indexing program that enables volunteers to index records that are added into the site’s records databases (Millions of new records are added each week!)
- Apps for phones, notebooks, and other devices
- Partnerships with other sites, such as Ancestry, thus increasing resources available for searching and storing family history
- Online help and live help via the phone
- Free online classes on a multiplicity of family history topics!
- And much more.....!

**Get Help:** Located in the upper right hand corner of every FamilySearch page, this is the place to go for help so that you can find answers and enable yourself to do things on your own within the site. Get Help contains links to the following:

**Search Window:** Searches Articles, Lessons, and Wiki then links to them for answers to your inquiries

**Help Center:** Opens the Help Center home page where there is another search window and clickable icons. These search articles, lessons, and Wiki for information relating to the different areas of FamilySearch: *Family Tree, Memories, Search, Indexing, Temple, FamilySearch Account, Genealogy Assistance, Family History Center, Mobile, and Partners*

**Getting Started:** Provides basic help in using the site and doing family history

**Contact Us:** Gives information and links for contacting FamilySearch through messages and live phone conversations. Provides help in locating family history centers around the world.

**Learning Center:** Links to lessons, both written and video, on almost every aspect of family history, including using the FamilySearch.org website.

**My Cases:** Under Contact Us there is a place to send a message to FamilySearch and ask questions or seek help with issues. My Cases is where copies of your message and the FamilySearch response are kept so you can refer to them again if desired.

**Research Wiki:** A massive depository of all things related to genealogy. Great place to go for help, information, ideas, links to other genealogy sites, and more.

**What's New:** Links to the FamilySearch Blog for articles relating to a wide range of family history topics and events.

**At the Bottom of the Home Page:** (Also on many other pages within the site) There is a row of words: About, Blog, Feedback, Site Map, App Gallery, Cookie Preferences, English. Click on the words and you will be linked into specific places and features in the site. Check them out. Two I want to mention:

**Blog:** Lots of useful information found here! Check it frequently. One example - on July 31, 2017 there was an article titled: Using FamilySearch Apps to Record Oral Histories. It explains and shows through pictures how to make audio recordings on your phone and have them show up on FamilySearch where they can be identified and attached to specific people. There is a search window on the Blog home page for finding old blog articles by title or topic.

**English:** Click on this and the language of the site can be changed. 10 options.

**To give further information** would simply replicate what is available on the site in the areas listed and described above. Explore and experiment by clicking here and there. You will come to recognize the FamilySearch site is phenomenal!