

Genealogy Basics – Tutorials, Articles by Favorite Authors, Free On-line Training etc. By Joe Petrie

I have found so much material over the years that this is a very hard subject to write about. I have a couple of favorite authors that I'll cover first.

AUTHORS

Kimberly T. Powell

Kimberly is the President of the Association of Professional Genealogists. I started reading her material a few years ago on About.com Genealogy. One of my favorites by Kimberly is 101 Ways to Research Your Family Tree for Free, Alternatives to Pay-For-Use Genealogy Sites on the Internet.

The following is from her resume on About.com:

Kimberly Powell is a professional genealogist, genealogy blogger and proud mother of three children. She is a course coordinator and instructor at the Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy, and an instructor at the Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research at Samford University in Birmingham, Alabama.

Kimberly has written on Canadian Research. I especially like a couple of her articles on About.com Genealogy: Genealogy Learning & Guidance (which is a compendium of links to other material covering six different topics) and Free Online Genealogy Education (where she identifies and describes six sites). The sites are:

1. FamilySearch Learning Center (<https://familysearch.org/learningcenter/home.html>)
2. BYU Independent Study - Free Online Courses (<http://is.byu.edu/site/courses/free.cfm>)
3. UK National Archives Podcast Series (<http://media.nationalarchives.gov.uk/index.php/category/family-history/>)
4. U.S. National Archives - Know Your Records (<https://www.youtube.com/user/usnationalarchives>)
5. Legacy Family Tree Webinars (<http://www.familytreewebinars.com/>)
6. SCGS Jamboree Extension Series (<http://www.scsgsgenealogy.com/webinar/overview.html>)

Rhonda R McClure

Rhonda is a Genealogist at the New England Historic Genealogical Society (NEHGS). The following is the first paragraph of her resume from the NEHGS web site

(AmericanAncestors.org):

Rhonda R. McClure, Genealogist, is a nationally recognized professional genealogist and lecturer specializing in New England and celebrity research as well as computerized genealogy; is compiler of more than 120 celebrity family trees; has been a contributing editor for *Heritage Quest Magazine*, *Biography* magazine and was a contributor to *The History Channel Magazine* and *American History Magazine*. In addition to numerous articles, she is the author of ten books, including the award-winning *The Complete Idiot's Guide to Online Genealogy*, now in its second edition, *Finding Your Famous and Infamous Ancestors*, and *Digitizing Your Family History*.

Rhonda is one of many NEHGS staff members and authors who have written articles for the Learning Center. I especially recommend her Learning Center articles on: Getting Started, Getting Organized, French – Canadian Genealogy and Naturalization Records.

LEARNING CENTERS

Family Search Learning Center (<https://familysearch.org/learningcenter/home.html>)

Kimberly Powell describes the FamilySearch Learning Center as follows: Hundreds of free online genealogy classes are now available at FamilySearch.org - covering topics ranging from beginning genealogy research in several different countries, to reading handwritten records (multiple languages to choose from). There are even options for those of us who have been doing this for a while, from the wonderful "Inferential Genealogy" class by Thomas W. Jones, PhD, CG, CGL to "Polish Displaced Persons" with Ceil Wendt Jensen MA, CG. These new classes are self-paced and entirely free to everyone. Most include a video lesson. Some also include a course outline or handout.

When I conduct individual consultations where I know that the individual is looking for ancestors in foreign countries that I have not done very much research on, I bone up using the FamilySearch Learning Centers Locality specific material.

NEHGS Online Learning Center (<http://www.americanancestors.org/learning-center/>) The following topics are currently covered: Getting Started; Getting Organized; Genealogical Software; Using AmericanAncestors.org; Using the NEHGS Library; Genealogy for the Next Generation; Writing & Publishing; 17th-c. New England Research; Chinese-American Genealogy; Japanese-American Genealogy; English Genealogy; French-Canadian Genealogy; Irish Genealogy; Naturalization Records; New York Research; Newfoundland Genealogy; Pennsylvania German; Polish Genealogy; PEI Genealogy; Quaker Genealogy; and WWI and WWII Research.

TUTORIALS WORTH LOOKING INTO

I will not cover the following:

National Genealogical Society <http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/cs/tutorials>

Genealogy Services <http://www.genealogytutorial.com/>

Genealogy Tutorials <http://www.learnwebskills.com/broward/genealogytutorials.htm>

Researching Your Family Tree <http://www.learnwebskills.com/broward/genealogytutorials.htm>

Genealogy.com <http://www.genealogy.com/university.html>

The Genealogy Society <http://www.genealogycenter.org/pathfinders/GettingStarted.aspx>

US GenWEB Project <http://usgenweb.org/research/starting.shtml>

Find My Past <http://www.findmypast.com/content/10-tips-to-start-your-family-history-journey>

Start Your Genealogy Research <http://www.archives.gov/research/genealogy/start-research/>

Mid-Continent Public Library <http://www.mymcpl.org/genealogy/getting-started-genealogy>

WAYS THAT I KEEP UP WITH THE CHANGES IN TUTORIALS ETC.

Kimberly Powell writes a weekly newsletter. To sign up I used Google to search: Kimberly Powell Weekly Genealogy Newsletter from About.com.

The NEHGS also has a weekly newsletter that identifies changes in the Online Learning Center. The latest weekly genealogist newsletter identifies 4 new online offerings. One was for Prince Edward Island. Individuals who register as guest and members can opt to receive The Weekly Genealogist.

Finally, I read Dick Eastman's free blog, Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter (<http://blog.eogn.com/>). GenealogyinTime magazine has rated Dick Eastman's blog – web site as the 11th Top Rated Genealogy Website (of 100 websites) for 2014. It is the top rated blog. FamilySearch.org is the Top Rated Free Website.

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Comments and suggestions are appreciated. Please Email me at my Email address:
joe-apg@norwoodlight.com

Joseph F. Petrie

Founding Member, Friends of Irish Research (FIR)
Member, Cape Breton Genealogy and Historical Association (CBGHA)
Member, Family History Society of Newfoundland and Labrador (FHSNL)
Member, New England Historic Genealogical Society (NEHGS)
Member, Association of Professional Genealogists (APG)