Using Wikis and Online Training

Richard Reid Friends of Irish Research

WIKI, WIKI Everywhere

 You've probably heard of Wikipedia, the popular online encyclopedia where you can find background articles on everything from Fig Newtons to Finland's former municipalities. The Web site is designed so anyone can contribute or modify content, following the philosophy that openness encourages more and better content.

The Growth of WIKI

 As Wikipedia grew, the open-content "wiki" concept spread to other types of content, including genealogy. The technology is a natural fit: Family historians are always seeking ways to collaborate.

Wiki – Post Its

 Wikis provide a platform for preserving and sharing our discoveries, creating repositories of reference material and comparing notes with others researching the same families—kind of like virtual Post-it notes.

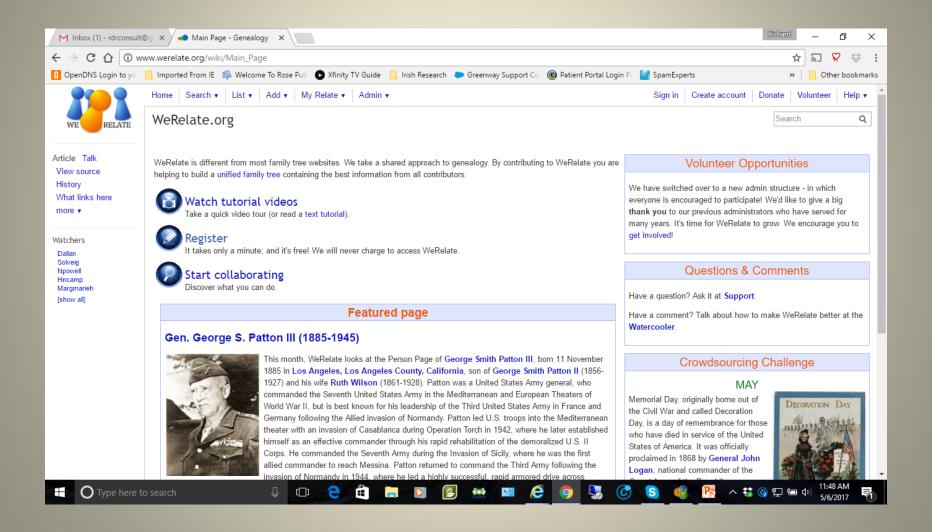
A Crash Course of Wiki

 To give you a crash course in this genealogical collaboration trend, we offer this overview of three free family history wikis and how they can benefit

WeRelate

 The granddaddy of genealogy wikis is WeRelate, sponsored by the Foundation for On-Line Genealogy in partnership with the Allen County (Ind.) Public Library. With pages on more than 2 million people and families, WeRelate is the largest genealogy wiki—and it's geared primarily toward sharing family tree data. The goal is to encourage people to post their research on specific ancestors for others to find and add to, so everyone benefits from the collaboration.

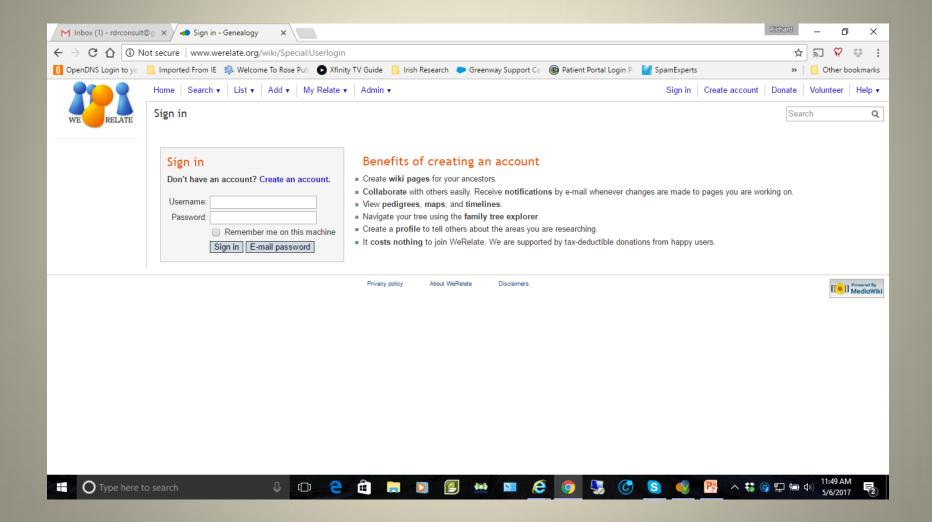
Current WeRelate.org Home Page



WeRelate

 To get started, sign up for a free account, then either upload a GEDCOM file or begin entering your family tree manually. If you upload a GEDCOM, the system will automatically create a page for each person in the file.

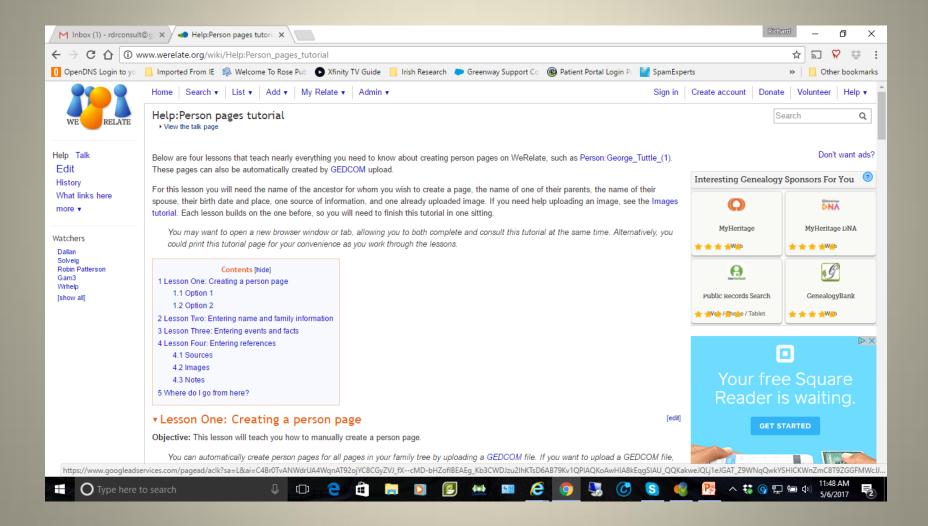
Create a Login



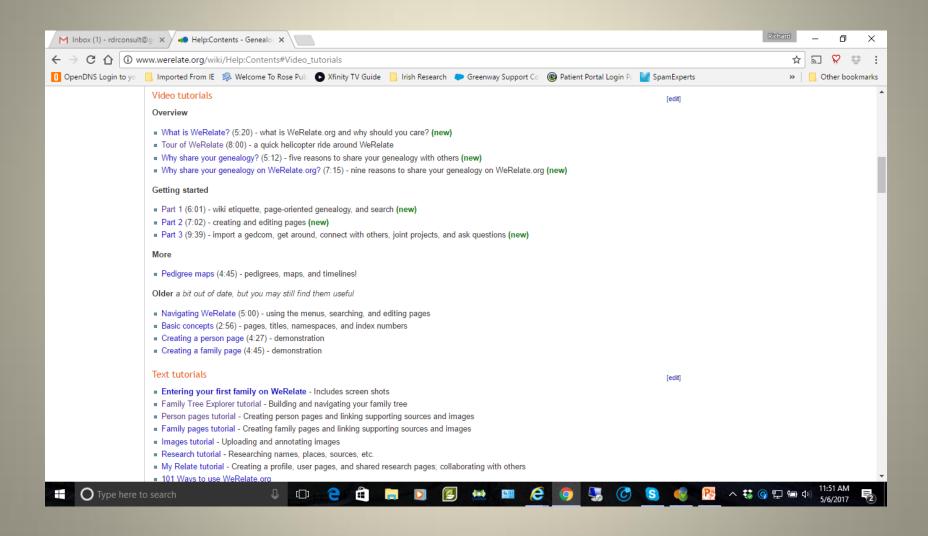
WeRelate

- Currently, you can upload files containing up to 5,000 people—though you can make arrangements with the administrators to accommodate a larger upload.
- Once WeRelate creates your pages (this can take up to an hour for large files), you can view your relatives on standalone pages, within a pedigree chart, in a timeline and even on a map.

Lots of Help



Including Help Videos



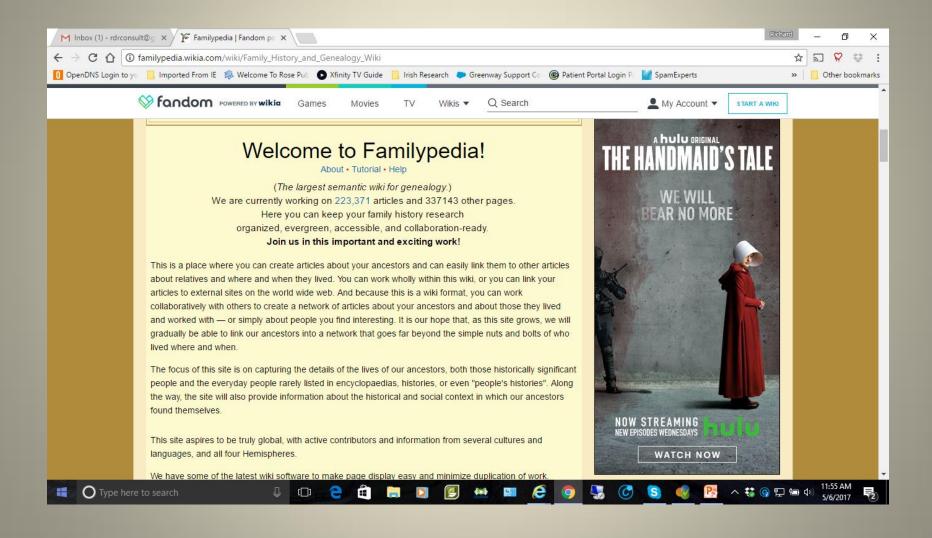
WeRelate

 The site has several excellent video tutorials, each of which walks you through a specific task, such as how to create or edit a family page. Before beginning your wiki expedition, we recommend you watch the "helicopter ride" video, which gives a good overview of how the system works.

Familypedia

 Similar to WeRelate, Familypedia is a communitybuilt repository of genealogy data: facts about people, places, sources and related topics. To date, users have contributed 25,000 articles (an article here is equivalent to a page on WeRelate). These range from people profiles (William Cowan, 1750-1809) to descendant reports (Eldert family of New Netherlands) to record transcriptions (1820 Every-Name Census Reconstruction for Green Township, Harrison County, Ohio).

Familypedia.wikia.com



Familypedia

 If you use Wikipedia often, Familypedia's setup will look and feel familiar. Wiki newcomers, on the other hand, may find the terminology and interface less intuitive than WeRelate's. The best way to get your feet wet—and familiarize yourself with how to find existing content—is to click around the Community Portal page. For example, you can use the surname index or the basic, intermediate or advanced searches.

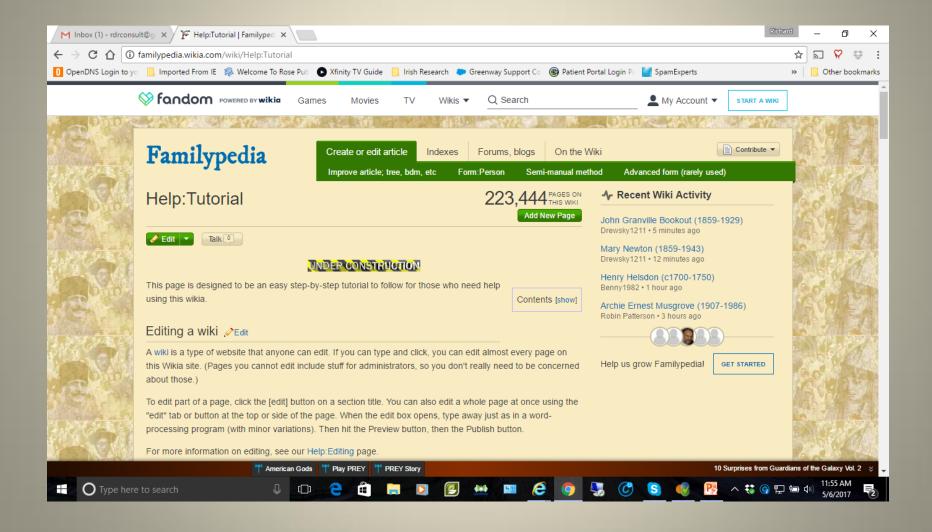
Community Portal Page



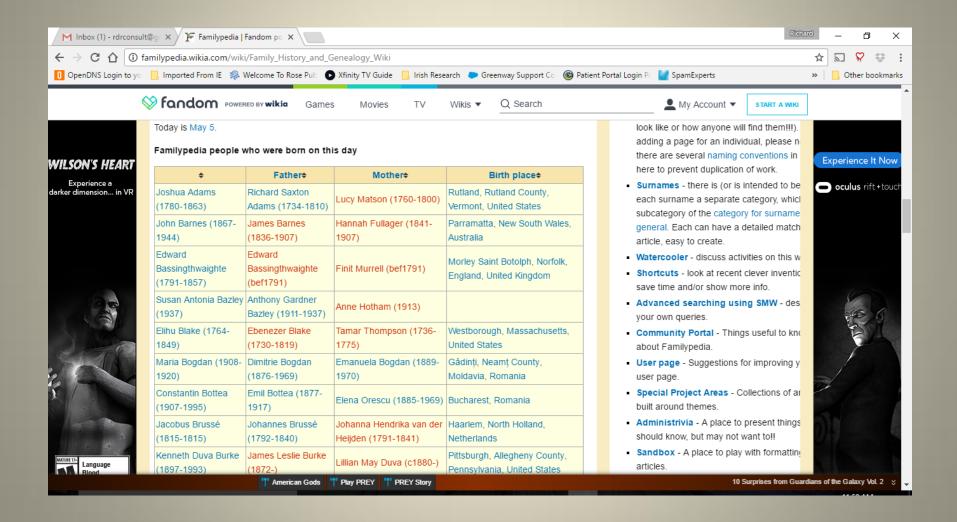
Tutorials Available

 To add your own content, click Creating Pages or Editing Pages on the right side of the home page. Although Familypedia's tutorials are thorough, actually editing a page requires users to follow HTML coding instructions—it's not a fill-in-the-blanks approach

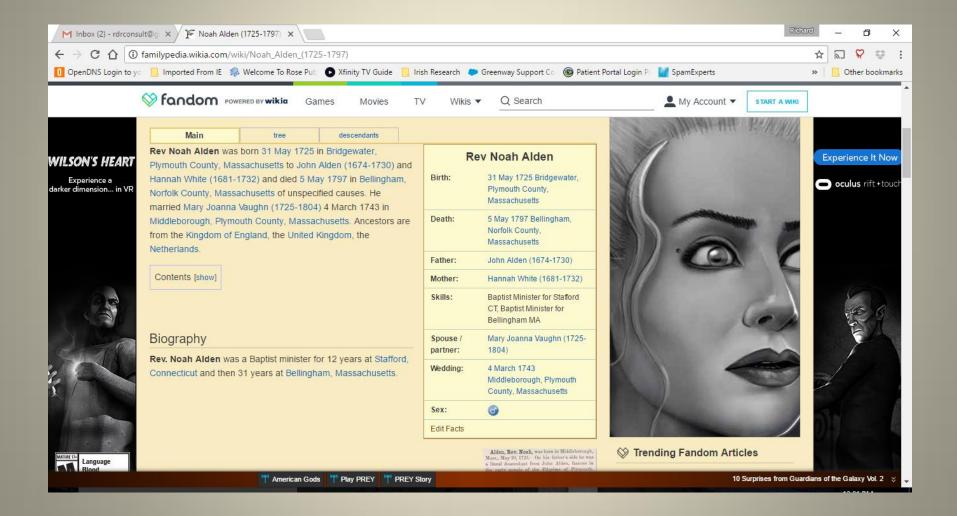
Help



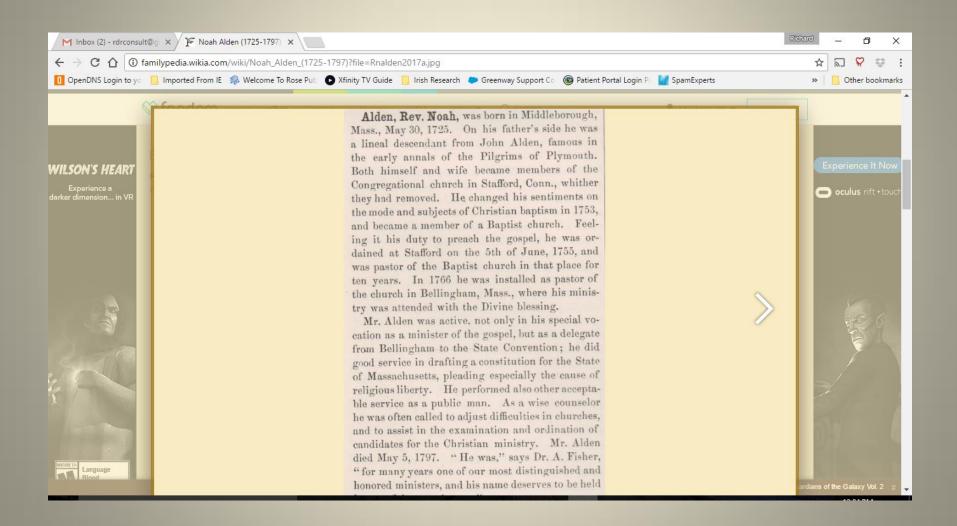
Familypedia: Born On This Day



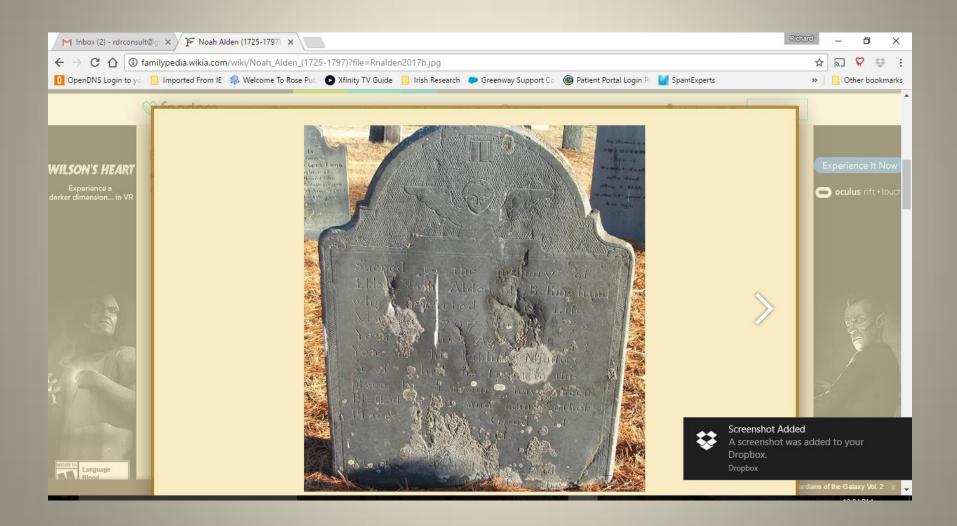
Rev. Noah Alden (1725-1797)



Obituary of Rev. Noah Alden



Headstone of Rev. Noah Alden



FamilySearch Wiki

Instead of ancestral data, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints' genealogy wiki focuses on the family history craft itself, serving as a platform to share research advicenot to post what you know about specific ancestors.

familysearch.org/wiki/en/Main_Page



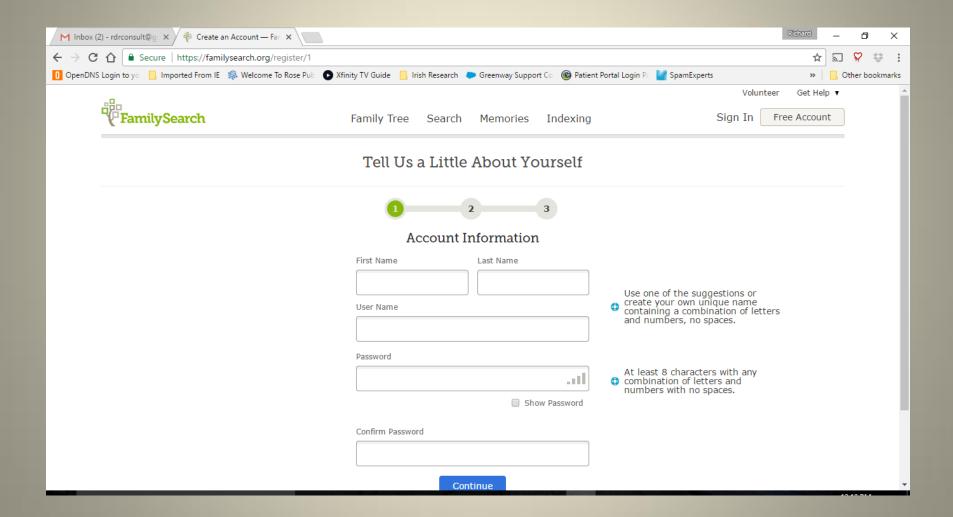
FamilySearch Wiki

 You can search this wiki for topics of interest perhaps you want to brush up on bounty-land warrants or banns—or use the right-side navigation to learn how to do research in different countries. Click Scotland, for example, to view background on Scottish history and immigrants, as well as a guide to finding your Scottish ancestors.

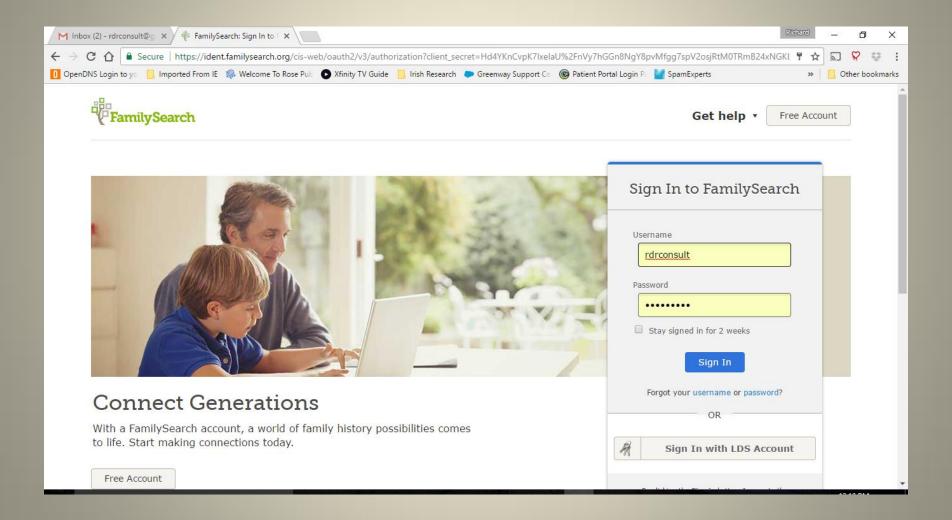
Get Involved

 Have knowledge of your own to share? Register for a free account to create and edit pages.

Create a Free Account



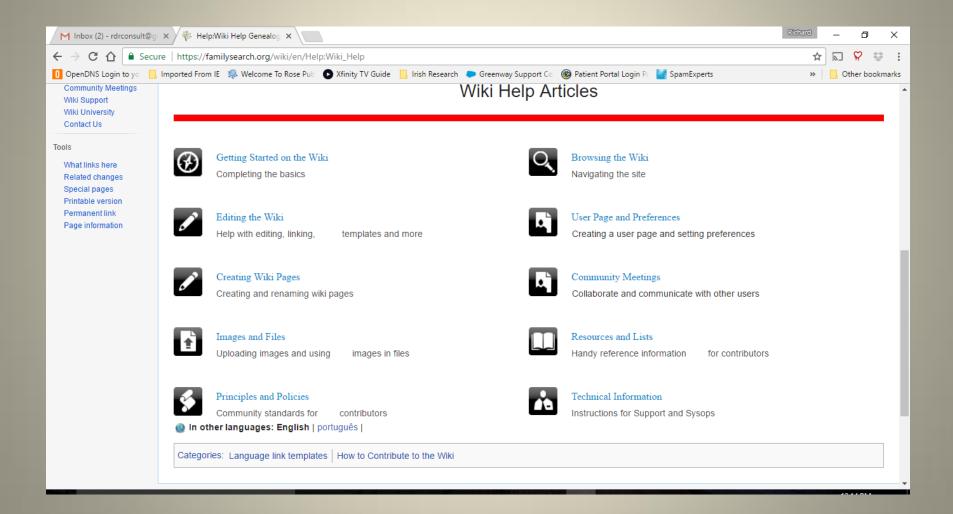
Login with Your FamilySearch Account



Learn the Tool

 Before you get started browsing or contributing to the FamilySearch Wiki, you should visit the Help section.

Help Section



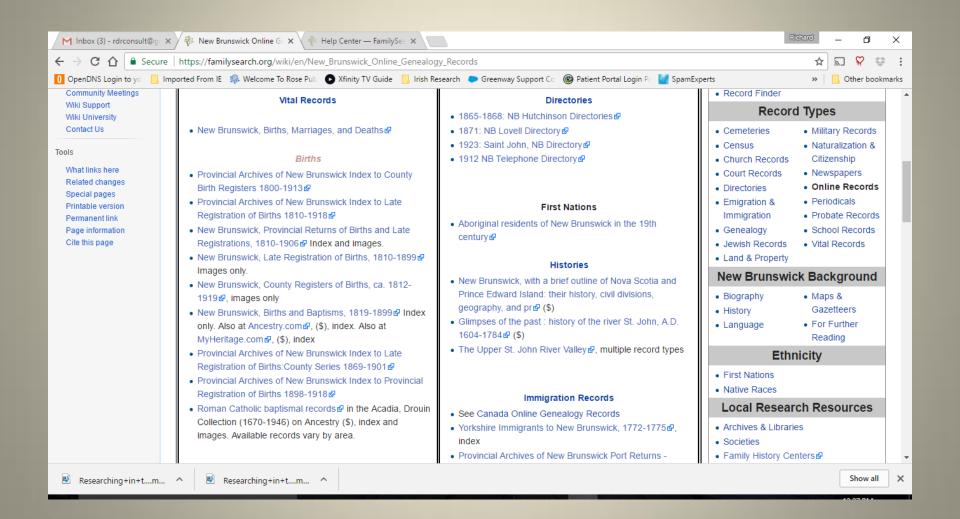
Video Training



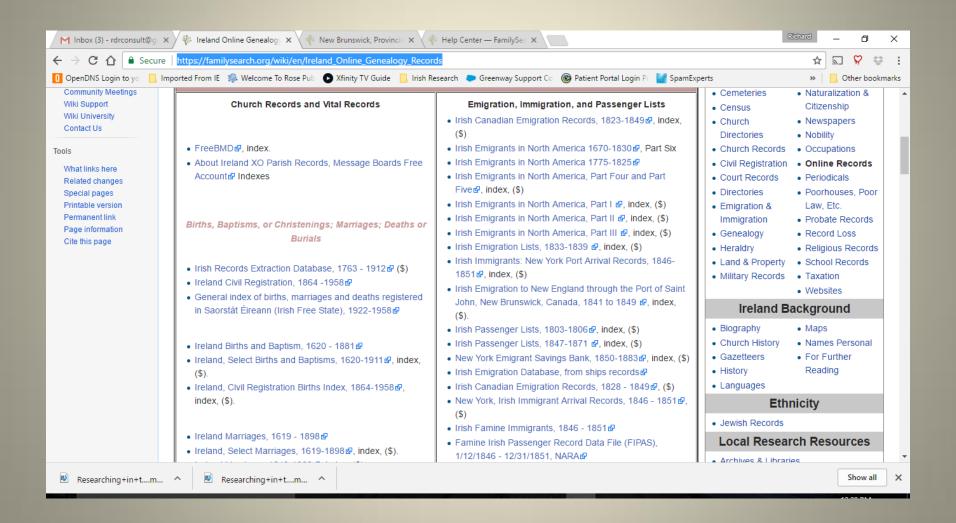
Online Genealogy Records



New Brunswick Details



Ireland's Research Tools



Ireland's Research Page

https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/Ireland Online Genealogy Records

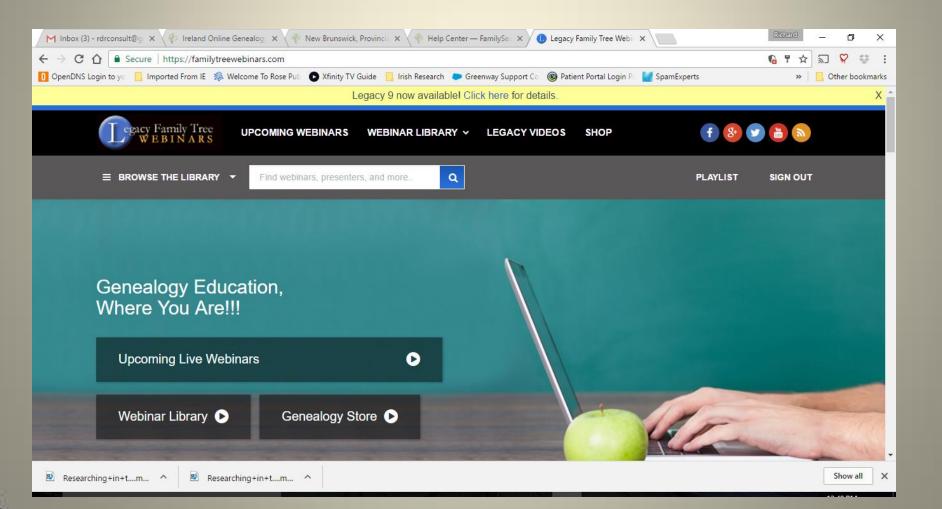
Genealogical Wikis

- A great source of documents to prove your research.
- A great source of ideas to point you in the right direction

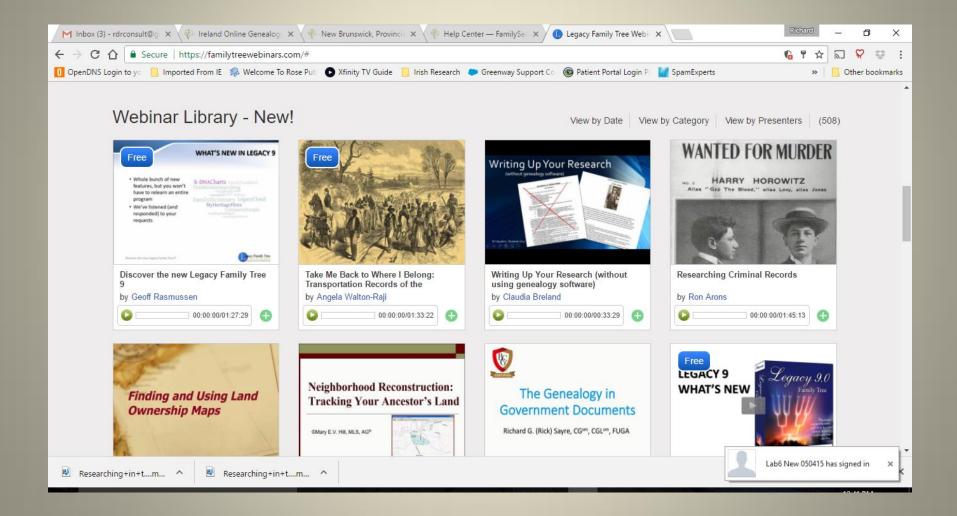
Online Training

- Every software package provides video training
- Every search engine provides video training
- Quickest way to learn a new tool or skillset

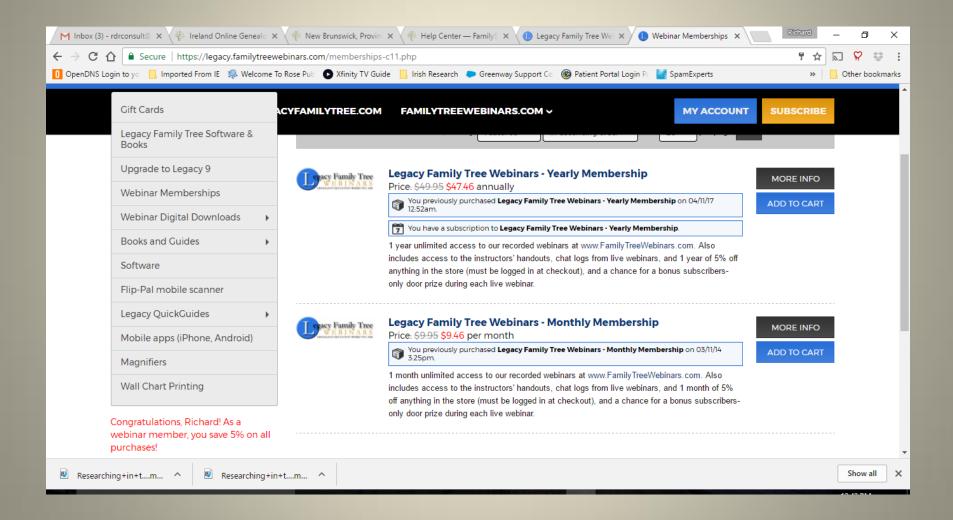
The Best of the Best https://familytreewebinars.com/



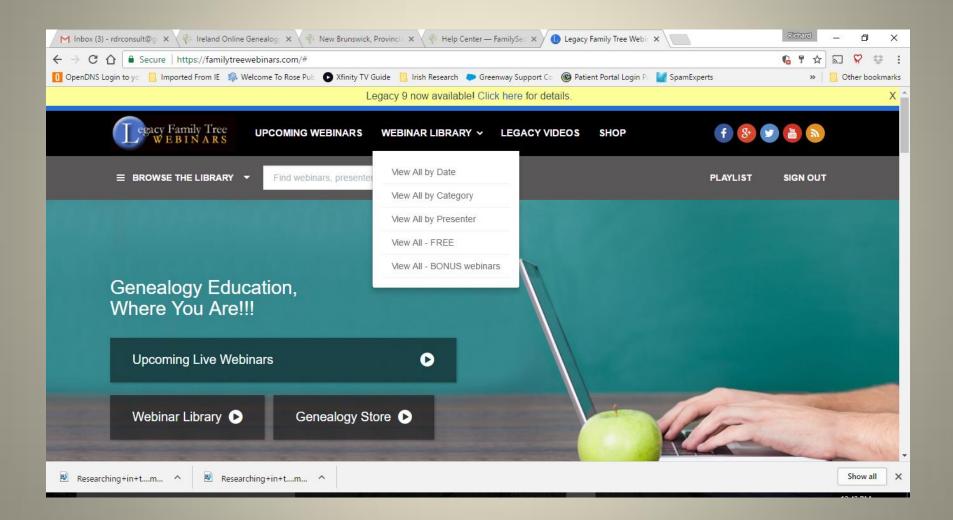
Free For All



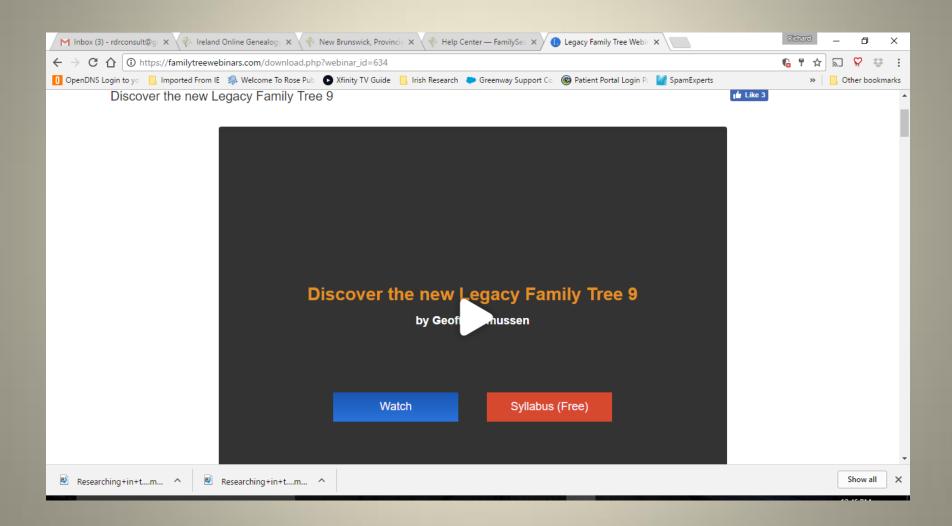
Subscription for a Month or Year



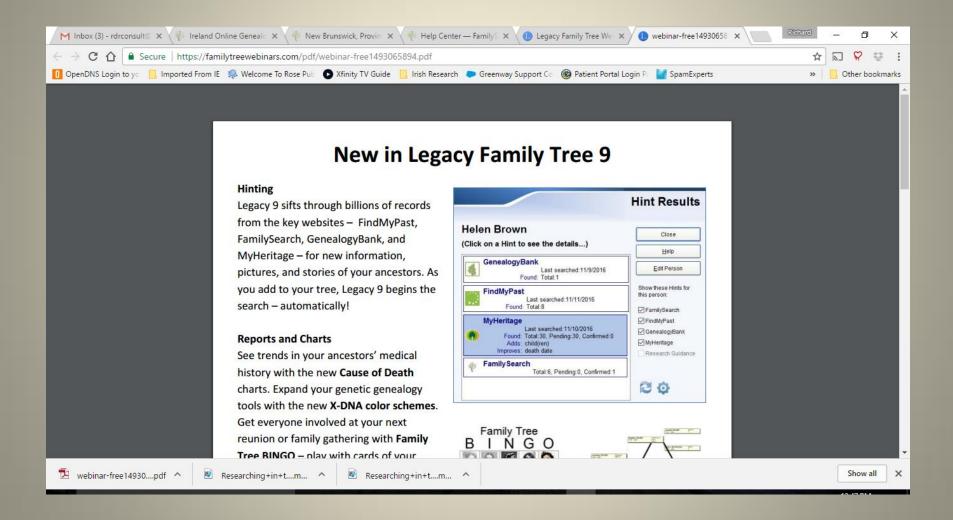
Find a Webinar



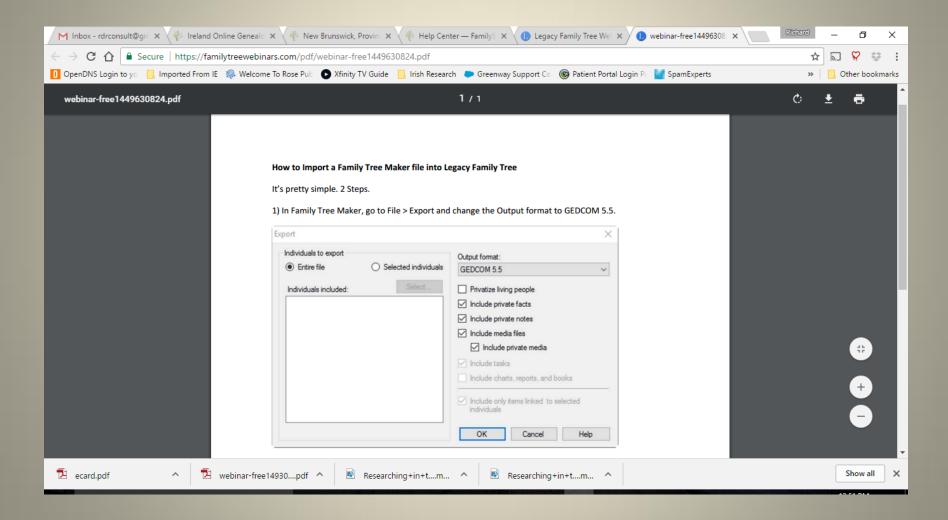
Syllabus Provided



Sample Syllabus



Free Import Syllabus



Free Webinar

 https://familytreewebin ars.com/download.php?
webinar id=415

Remember These Things

- 1. You will never know it all.
- 2. You must always be learning.
- 3. There is always one more ancestor to find.

Friends of Irish Research

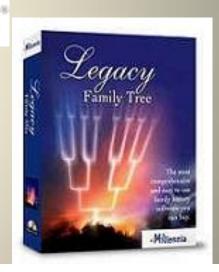
- The Friends of Irish Research is a collection of friends with over 100 years of experience with a desire to utilize their experience and skills to promote the sharing of genealogical knowledge and to assist others in their family research.
- Fridays (7:30-9:30pm) at 899 N. Main St., Brockton, MA
- http://www.friendsofirishresearch.org

Friends of Irish Research Partners

FEDERATION OF GENEALOGICAL SOCIETIES

Linking the Genealogical Community









 $\begin{array}{c} {\sf Association\ of\ Professional}\\ {GENEALOGISTS} \end{array}$