Family History: Genealogy Made Easy with Lisa Louise Cooke Republished 2014

Welcome to this step-by-step series for beginning genealogists and more experienced ones who want to brush up or learn something new. I first ran this series in 2008-2009. So many people have asked about it, I'm bringing it back in weekly segments.



Episode 19: Using Family History Centers, Part III

This is the final episode of a series of three where we answer all your questions about Family History Centers. My very special guest is Margery Bell, Assistant Director of the Oakland Family History Center in Oakland, California. She has over 35 years of experience working in Family History Centers, and is the perfect choice for our audio guided tour.

In our first segment we're going to talk about the educational opportunities available through the Family History Centers, including the new online Wiki. Then in our second segment, Margery will give you her Top 7 Tips for getting the most out of your visit to a Family History Center. Finally, Margery will inspire you with some stories of genealogical serendipity that she has experienced over her many years working at Family History Centers.

Educational Opportunities at Family History Centers

- Orientation ask upon arrival!
- Classes free or cost of program (handouts, outside speaker)
- Research Outlines now online at <u>https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Research_Outlines</u>
- FamilySearch Wiki https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Main Page

Margery's 7 Top Tips for Using Family History Centers

- 1. Ask for a tour the first time you go
- 2. Ask questions
- 3. Get down to your specific area
- 4. Jump in
- 5. Ask as you go
- 6. Be patient with the volunteer staff
- 7. Ask for a specialist if necessary

A lot of genealogy serendipity happens at Family History Centers as researchers gather, page (or click) through research resources and listen to and help each other. "There is something about when we are together," says Margery Bell. "You just never know when you're going to find a relative!"

Updates

Some Family History Centers are now called FamilySearch Centers. Many Centers have opened in public and private libraries in the past few years, not just in meetinghouses of the

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Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Find a FamilySearch Center/Family History Center near you at <u>https://familysearch.org/locations/centerlocator</u>.