

Alberta Genealogical Society and Alberta Family Histories Society
Will Help You



Find **YOUR**

Tree in the Forest

Join us to learn methods and techniques that will assist you in discovering your particular family tree in that vast woodland of genealogical information.

April 13 & 14, 2012
Holiday Inn 67th Street
Red Deer, Alberta



Alberta Genealogical Society

Hosted By

Red Deer Branch

Alberta Genealogical Society



Conference information at <http://www.rdgensoc.ab.ca/conferenceindex.html>

AGS/AFHS Joint Conference – *Find YOUR Tree in the Forest*

April 13-14, 2012 – Red Deer, Alberta

Information on the Presentations

Penny Allen (Vulcan, Alberta)

- **Video Conferencing and Rural Libraries**
Rural libraries have their own unique challenges. This talk will explain some of the ways difficulties can be overcome.

Jim Benedict (Calgary, Alberta)

- **A Massive project with Digital Technology**
Exhaustive research in a one name study of the Benedict family has used some fascinating digital *toys*.

Ronna Byam (Lethbridge, Alberta)

- **Ontario Research – History and Records to Use**
Your family comes from Ontario? You need to know the history of the province and learn some of the tips for researching in that area.

Shannon Cherkowski (Edmonton, Alberta)

- **Navigating Genealogy Websites**
Some of the best genealogy website you can use to find your family members are highlighted.

Janice Cushman (Calgary, Alberta)

- **How to Become a Professional Genealogist... Or Act Like One**
There are times when you simply cannot get information without being there. What is a professional researcher, and how can you do what they do?

Peter Darby (Innisfail, Alberta)

- **Getting the Most from LDS Family History Websites**
The LDS website, *FamilySearch*, has made some drastic changes. Here are some tips to find your way around the new website.
- **Using Online Maps and Gazetteers**
These documents can enhance any family history research project. How can one access and use some of these essential online sources?

Dick Eastman (Massachusetts, USA)

- **The Family History World in 10 Years' Time**
Genealogy has been rapidly changing over the last few years. What can we expect in the next 10 years?
- **Genealogy Searches on Google**
Think you know all about it? Join a discussion on how to better use one of the familiar tools on the internet.
- **Photographing Old or Delicate Documents and Photographs**
Use the correct techniques for best results.

Thomas MacEntee – In Webinars (Illinois, USA)

- **Self-Publishing for Genealogists**
Advances in recent technology have made it possible to no longer be tied to a publishing house or printer for your next genealogy book.
- **They're Alive – Searching for Living Relatives**
How to find those living relatives and what they can help you with? You may be surprised!

Nancy Millar (Canmore, Alberta)

- **Once Upon a Tomb – Stories from the Graveyards**
Graveyards help tell us the stories of pioneers and settlers, missionaries and Native people, artists and politicians, and the ordinary people whose often unsung lives reveal so much about our past.

Joan Miller (Calgary, Alberta)

- **Research and Verify Your Ancestors with DNA – Getting Started**
Wondering how DNA can help you find your family? Here is how you can get started.

Gena Philibert Ortega (California, USA)

- **Research Like a History Detective**
Research methodology using artifacts or family legends will help you become a History Detective and solve many of your family history mysteries.
- **Combining Historical Research with your Genealogy**
History is a big part of research. If you don't know what went on in a certain time period you cannot understand why your ancestors made the decisions they did.

Wayne Shephard (Calgary, Alberta)

- **The Future is Still in the Past – Online Parish Clerks**
Future family history research is still primarily based on information from the past. Volunteers like OPCs can and will be sources for much of that data

Lois Sparling (Calgary, Alberta)

- **Visiting Libraries**
You cannot get it all on line so there are times when you must visit a library or courthouse for information. How should you prepare for that trip?

Jean Tilbert (Hanna, Alberta)

- **So Prove It – Citing Your Sources**
You want to share your research but the family doesn't agree with what you found. Can you prove it?

For additional information about all speakers go to www.rdgensoc.ab.ca/presenters.html

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Program



Friday, April 13, 2012				
4:00 pm	Registration Opens			
7:00 pm	Opening Address	<i>Gena Philibert Ortega</i>	Research Like A History Detective	
Saturday, April 14, 2012				
7:30 am	Registration Opens			
8:30 am	Keynote Address	<i>Dick Eastman</i>	The Family History World in 10 Years' Time	
9:30 am	A Massive Project with Digital Technology <i>Jim Benedict</i>	The Future is Still in the Past – Online Parish Clerks <i>Wayne Shephard</i>	Navigating Genealogy Websites <i>Shannon Cherkowski</i>	Ontario Research – History and Records to Use <i>Ronna Byam</i>
10:25 am	Coffee Break			
10:45 am	Genealogy Searches on Google <i>Dick Eastman</i>	Getting the Most from LDS Family History Websites <i>Peter Darby</i>	How to Become a Professional Genealogist or Act Like One <i>Janice Cushman</i>	Video Conferencing and Rural Libraries <i>Penny Allen</i>
11:45 am	Lunch Break			
12:30 pm	AGS – Annual General Meeting			
	AFHS – Poster Session (Details to be announced later)			
2:00 pm	Webinar: Self-Publishing for Genealogists <i>Thomas MacEntee</i>	Research and Verify Your Ancestors with DNA - Getting Started <i>Joan Miller</i>	Combining Historical Research with your Genealogy <i>Gena Philibert Ortega</i>	So Prove It – Citing Your Sources <i>Jean Tilbert</i>
2:55 pm	Coffee Break			
3:15 pm	Webinar: They're Alive – Searching for Living Relatives <i>Thomas MacEntee</i>	Photographing Old or Delicate Documents and Photographs <i>Dick Eastman</i>	Using Online Maps and Gazetteers <i>Peter Darby</i>	Visiting Libraries <i>Lois Sparling</i>
4:15 pm	Closing Address	<i>Nancy Millar</i>	Once Upon a Tomb – Stories from the Graveyards	
5:15 pm	Windup			

For additional information about all talks go to www.rdgensoc.ab.ca/schedule.html

Registration Fees:
 AGS & AFHS Members – \$65.00
 Members registering after March 15th – \$75.00
 Non-members – \$75.00
 Non-members registering after March 15th – \$85.00

For online registration information go to www.rdgensoc.ab.ca/registration.html

Conference Hotel: Holiday Inn – 6500 - 67th Street, Red Deer, Alberta T4P 1A2
 Phone: 1-800-661-4961

For hotel information go to www.rdgensoc.ab.ca/map.html

Note: A group of rooms have been reserved at the special rate of \$134.99 per night. Participants should contact the hotel directly to book a room. Mention the conference to receive the conference price.

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Keynote and Featured Speakers



Dick Eastman has been involved in genealogy for more than 30 years. He has also worked in the computer industry for more than 40 years in hardware, software, and managerial positions.

Dick has preached the benefits of technology to a wide audience of genealogists, including national and international genealogical organizations, and of course *GENTECH*, an organization that helped him to spread his message.

In 1996 he was instrumental in launching *Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter* as an e-mail publication, announcing it to 100 surprised friends and acquaintances. The weekly newsletter has since grown into a daily publication, still available in e-mail but also now available on the *World Wide Web*. The present newsletter is read by more than 70,000 genealogists all over the world.

(<http://blog.eogn.com>)



Nancy Millar was born in the Peace River country of Alberta and raised on a farm. She finished high school in Grande Prairie, and then went on to the University of Alberta in Edmonton. Her first writing job was with the *Red Deer Advocate* as Women's Editor, a great job.

She wrote up weddings, meetings of the WI, recipes, 50th wedding anniversaries, all that was termed "soft" news in those days. Nancy moved to Calgary where she worked at CBC television as the first female news anchor in Calgary. She then began writing a weekly column for the Calgary Herald, more or less "soft" stuff again. She started exploring graveyards as a way of writing about history from a new starting point. It was also a way to do primary research. She went on from there, always writing history with a human face, trying to answer the question, "And then what happened?"

Nancy got involved with the *Famous 5 Foundation* in Calgary in the 1990s. She was terribly proud when the statues were unveiled in Calgary in 1999 and even prouder when the replicas were unveiled in Ottawa a year later. Nancy is still telling that story through drama and any other way that presents itself.

(www.nancymillar.com)



Thomas MacEntee relies upon his 25 years of experience in the information technology field as a genealogist specializing in the use of technology and social media to improve genealogical research and to interact with others in the family history community.

While working for the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Thomas was asked to learn all about a new-fangled machine called the IBM Personal Computer and then teach others in his department. Thus began a fascination with desktop-computer technology and training.

From a background that includes computers, expertise as a trainer and genealogy, Thomas now shares his knowledge of technology and experience with others through various forms of social media and speaking engagements. Through his business, *High-Definition Genealogy*, he provides consulting services in the genealogy industry covering such areas as market research, education, technology and more.

Through *GeneaBloggers* Thomas has organized and engaged a community of over 2,000 bloggers to document their own journeys in the search for ancestors.

(www.hidefgen.com and www.geneabloggers.com)



Gena Philibert Ortega holds a Master's degree in Interdisciplinary Studies (Psychology and Women's Studies) and a Master's degree in Religion. Presenting on various subjects involving genealogy, Gena has spoken to groups throughout the United States and Europe.

Gena is the author of over 100 articles published in genealogy newsletters and magazines. Her writings can also be found on her blogs, *Gena's Genealogy and Food.Family.Ephemera*.

She is also the author of the books, *Putting the Pieces Together* and the *Cemeteries of the Eastern Sierra* (Arcadia Publishing, 2007). Gena serves as Vice-President for the Southern California Chapter of the *Association of Professional Genealogists*.

(www.yourfamilyhistoryresearch.com/index.shtml)

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