

Ukraine Genealogy Group (UGG) of Edmonton and Area Society, Alberta March 2025 Update



UGG Edmonton and Area Society continues to provide information and suggestions to its members whose interests that include the geographic areas of East Galicia (Ukraine), West Galicia (Poland), Bukovina (Ukraine and Romania), Volhynia, and the West Russian Empire (Ukraine and Poland), and all of Ukraine. We invite people from all of the Eastern European countries to participate in our meetings.

There are no membership requirements to this genealogy group. Our main focus at this time is on Western Canada and the former regions of Galicia and Bukovina in Western Ukraine. Whenever possible the presentation or the handouts are shared with the participants who attend the Zoom meetings and in-person workshops. The Zoom sessions are recorded with permission from the guest speaker, in advance. Note that we are in the process of creating a website for this society. And we are always looking for more volunteers to assist us. Elaine can be reached at kalyna@outlook.com.



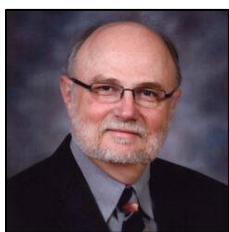
Here is the current 2025 schedule for the “Ukraine Genealogy Group of Edmonton and Area”:



“Ukrainian Settlement in Canada: The Role of Bukovynian Ukrainians”. On Wed., March 26, 2025, starting at 7pm MST, our guest speaker is Dr. Taras Lupul, who is currently a co-researcher, Scholars at Risks Programme (Ukraine), College of Social Sciences and Humanities, Department of History, Classics and Religion, Faculty of Arts, University of Alberta as well as a visiting researcher in CIUS. This lecture will discuss different aspects of the history of Bukovynian-Ukrainian immigration to Canada, including the emigration process, arrival and settlement in Canada, and community development. Dr. Lupul will focus on emigration from the states of Austria-Hungary prior to World War I and from Romania in the interwar period of 1920-39. The role of Ukrainians from Bukovyna in the development of Orthodox churches in Canada will also be examined, including the founding of parishes such as the Holy Trinity Bukowinian Orthodox Cathedral in Ottawa and the Saint Sophie Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral in Montreal.

A Bukovynian native (born in Oshykhliby village, Kitsman raion, Chernivtsi oblast), Dr. Taras Lupul was an associate professor in the Department of International Relations, Chernivtsi Fedkovych National University. His candidate's dissertation topic was on current immigration trends in Canada, and he has authored a book about the politicization of ethnicity as an institutional factor in the formation of the contemporary Canadian political nation (Chernivtsi National Univ. 2010) and many articles in Ukrainian and other Eastern European scholarly journals.

Zoom link to register: <https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/6RTMJUgKSLCEQj-q3v33Uw>



On Wed., April 16, 2025, starting at 7 pm MST, our guest speaker is Jars Balan. His presentation on **“Ukrainian Settlement in Western Canada”** looks at the evolution of Ukrainian communities in the Canadian Prairies beginning in the late 19th century. Seen as ideal immigrants to take on the challenges of transforming the Parkland region of the Canadian Prairies into productive farmland, thousands of Ukrainians came to Canada under the Canadian Government’s Prairie Settlement initiative. Mr. Balan will discuss the process of attracting Ukrainians to Canada, their long journey by trains and ocean vessels to homesteading lands on the prairies, and the difficulties they had to overcome in making their home in Canada. Many Albertans claim Ukrainian heritage, and have a contributed a rich, cultural element to the development of western Canada.

JARS BALAN is the Director of the Peter and Doris Kule Ukrainian Canadian Studies Centre at the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies (CIUS), University of Alberta. He has authored numerous scholarly and popular articles on Ukrainian - Canadian history, literature, and theatre, and an illustrated history of Ukrainians in Canada. A lifelong activist in the Ukrainian community, he is the initiator and curator of the Kalyna Country Ecomuseum, a heritage district encompassing Canada's oldest and largest Ukrainian bloc settlement in rural east Central Alberta. Jars has been involved with CIUS, in one capacity or another, for almost all of its nearly fifty-year history.

Zoom link to register: <https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/bMhq0NLOS3C4nowLhCLouQ>



We have created a “**Ukraine Genealogy Group – Edmonton and Area Society**”, a private Facebook group. This is a Ukraine genealogy group which is based in Edmonton, Alberta but collaborates with family researchers from Western Canada. And in all of the regions of the former Galicia and Bukovina under the Austro-Hungarian Empire, <https://www.facebook.com/groups/429397856414849/>

Elaine's blog, **Trace Your Roots – Ukrainian Canadian Genealogy** is <https://ukrainiancanadiangenealogy.blogspot.com/>

Local (Alberta) Events:

Annual General Meeting, Edmonton Branch, Alberta Genealogical Society, Thurs, Feb. 27, 7 – 9 pm, included in this year's agenda: 2024 Year-End/Annual Reports and Election of Officers. They are still looking for more volunteers for their board, library and community positions. <https://www.edmontongenealogy.ca/annual-general-meeting>

Genealogy Chats, is an informal means for people to connect and learn from each other, promoting discussion of relevant topics for attendees. The HSGPA library will have topics available and welcomes any further suggestions, Email HSGPV in advance and they will send a Zoom link to participate. Last Thursday of the month at 1 pm, in-person and zoom, Feb. 27, March 27, April 24, May 29 and June 26. Historical Society of Germans from Poland & Volhynia. <https://hsgpv.org/> and HSGPV Edmonton AB at hsgpv@telus.net

Destroyed Temples of Ukraine, at the Legislative Assembly of Alberta Visitor Centre, in Edmonton. Exhibit info: Feb. 10 to April 27, Wed., to Sunday, 11 am to 3 pm. 9820 – 107 Street, Edmonton. Since 24 February 2022, armed forces of the Russian Federation have ruined, damaged, and disrupted over 630 religious sites across Ukraine. They include an Orthodox cathedral with its steeple destroyed, a Jewish school struck by mortar shelling, and parish churches left almost totally flattened. Now the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, in partnership with the National Museum of the Revolution of Dignity (Національний музей Революції Гідності - Maidan Museum) in Kyiv, Ukraine, is honoured to present the exhibit. Hours may vary during holidays <https://www.assembly.ab.ca/visit/visitor-centre/borealis-gallery> <https://www.ualberta.ca/en/canadian-institute-of-ukrainian-studies/news-and-events/events/2025/exhibit-destroyed-temples-of-ukraine.html>

Alberta Family Histories Society is offering a **Genealogy 101 workshop**. Aimed at beginners or those wanting to learn some best practices from a few experienced members, it will be held on three Sundays (March 10, March 24 and April 7). For more information see our website <https://afhs.ab.ca/event/genealogy-101-3-part-workshop-2/>

Perogy Supper, 9003 – 153 Avenue, Edmonton, Sat. March 1, Exaltation of the Holy Cross Ukrainian Catholic Parish, Adults (13 yrs+) \$25.00, Youth (7-12 yrs) \$15.00 and children (6 & under) free. Cash bar. Two sittings, 4:30 pm – 6 pm then 6:30 pm – 8 pm. Advanced tickets only, contact Dianne @ 780-242-1534. <https://ehcucp.ca/>

The Harvest Excursions and Women on the Prairies, Wed. March 5, 1-3 pm. \$3.00 drop-in fee, WSAC Boardroom, Westend Seniors Activity Centre, 9629 – 176 Street, Edmonton. This meeting deals with the waves of men and women

brought to the Prairies between 1901 and 1929 to assist with the annual fall harvest, many of whom remained on the Prairies as homesteaders. Also, the efforts of the Canadian Government and the Railways to deal with the shortfall of women coming to the Prairies. https://weseniors.ca/whats_new/genealogy-drop-in-class/

UKE: The Untold Story of Hockey Legends (film), March 10, 5:30 – 9:30 pm, Ford Hall, Rogers Place, Edmonton, two ticket options: regular admission is \$50 with film screening and pyrohy/kubie plate and VIP Experience is \$150 with exclusive pre-screening with Kelly Hrudehy and director Volodymyr Mula, film screening and pyrohy/kubie plate. Throughout the 100-year existence of the NHL, more than fifty Ukrainians became champions of the League. This remarkable documentary, directed and produced by acclaimed Ukrainian filmmaker Volodymyr Mula, promises to be a captivating exploration of hockey's hidden history of Ukrainian hockey legends.

<https://www.universe.com/events/the-canadian-premiere-of-uke-the-untold-story-of-hockey-legends-tickets-0ZV1HM>

The Household Doctor with Michael Mucz, March 15, 1 – 3 pm, in-person only, Alberta Council for the Ukrainian Arts, Suite 100, 10554 – 110 Street, Edmonton. Ukrainian settlers brought a wealth of traditional knowledge that enabled them to settle, survive, and thrive on the Prairies. Michael Mucz, author of *Baba's Kitchen Medicines*, has been translating *Household Doctor: How to Treat Yourself with Home Remedies Without the Help of a Doctor* by M.M. Belegai. Written in the early 1900s in Edmonton, the theme of this book covers a variety of treatments using various household items or practices. The author of this book was not a doctor, but someone who compiled information from various European and Slavic medical books, selecting what they felt was useful and practical. Join Michael for an insightful discussion on his research into this publication. \$20 CAD for non-member, \$15 for ACUA members.

<https://alberta-council-for-the-ukrainian-arts.square.site/product/the-household-doctor-lecture-with-michael-mucz/4021>

DNA SIG: What I learned during a Roots Tech 2025 DNA Presentation, online, Wed., March 19, 7 – 9 pm, with Ellen Thompson-Jennings, be sure to attend live or online Roots Tech 2025 March 6-8 and tell us your ah ha moment at the meeting. <https://www.edmontongenealogy.ca/dna-sig>

Diseases, Illnesses and Remedies, Wed., April 2, 1-3 pm. \$3.00 drop-in fee, WSAC Boardroom, Westend Seniors Activity Centre, 9629 – 176 Street, Edmonton. This meeting deals with the variety of diseases and illnesses that people faced during the 19th and early 20th centuries, and the remedies and medications that were used to alleviate and hopefully cure victims of these illnesses. https://weseniors.ca/whats_new/genealogy-drop-in-class/

Ukrainian Easter Market, April 12, 11 am – 3 pm, general public, the Alberta Council for the Ukrainian Arts (ACUA) is hosting its annual Easter Market at their gallery and boutique. This event celebrates Ukrainian culture and artistry, featuring traditional crafts, foods, and the iconic pysanky – intricately decorated Easter eggs that are a hallmark of Ukrainian Easter traditions. <https://acuarts.ca/whats-on/easter-market-2025/>

Genealogy Faire, Sat., April 26, 9 am – 4 pm, in Red Deer, hosted by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Red Deer Stake and Alberta Genealogical Society, Red Deer Branch. Free but please register at <https://rdfamilyhistoryfair.blogspot.com/> and <https://rdfamilyhistoryfair.blogspot.com/p/sessions.html>

Love and Marriage. Echoes of love and loss linger in the vaults of the Provincial Archives of Alberta. Love letters, photographs and even government documents recount stories of romance and separation. But sometimes it's the absence of records that tell the real story. Visit the Provincial Archives of Alberta during public hours to view our latest gallery exhibit. Admission is free. May 7, 2024, to May 30, 2025.

<https://provincialarchives.alberta.ca/whats-new/exhibits>

Alberta Council for Ukrainian Arts (ACUA) – Events page (note that other events are listed here)

<https://acuarts.ca/projects-events/>



Other Genealogy Sessions:

Ukrainian Canadian History and Canada's Foreign Policy (1896-1991) by Thomas M. Prymak PhD, UGG-NCR, Tues., Feb. 25, starting at 5:30 pm MST. This is a slide presentation and discussion of the general contours of Ukrainian Canadian history focusing upon how this section of the Canadian population influenced the national policies of Canada towards various European states, but most especially towards the USSR and its treatment of the "Ukrainian Question" in the Soviet Union itself. The presentation begins with a description of early Galician and Ruthenian immigration to the Dominion of Canada within the British Empire and the question of identity formation among the new immigrants, proceeds quickly through the interwar period and Second World War and then focuses upon the Cold War era. The differing policies of prime ministers Louis Saint Laurent, John G. Diefenbaker, and Pierre Trudeau are all analyzed and their relations with the Ukrainians described. The discussion concludes with Prime Minister Brian Mulroney and Canada's timely recognition of Ukrainian independence in 1991. To register for this webinar: <https://uggncr.org/next-webinar/>

Some Cool Things for Family Historians, Tues., Feb. 25, 7:30 – 9 pm, MST, Okanagan Regional Library, presenter is Claire Smith-Burns. Hosted by the Kelowna & District Genealogical Society. There's a lot going on in the genealogy world, including new technology. We will explore several cool FREE things: powerful search engines fueled by AI, fun photo enhancements, the upcoming RootsTech Conference and more! <https://orl.libcal.com/event/3838479>

Introduction to East European Genealogy, Wed., Feb. 26, 6-7:30 pm (Winnipeg time), presented by Chris Bukoski, Program Chair and a member of the East European Genealogical Society, zoom online program offered by the Winnipeg Public Library. Successful eastern European genealogical research depends on correctly identifying the ancestral village. Learn genealogy basics, useful resources, and get tips for confirming the village name. <https://wpl.libcal.com/event/3877428>

Photo Organising Software Explained with Allison Lee, The Memory Curator, Wed., Feb. 26, 10 am Sydney Time (AEDT), (4 pm on Feb. 25 MST), zoom session. In this FREE Workshop we will debunk all the myths around photo organising software so you feel confident choosing it to sort and organising your precious memories. You'll learn:

- How software can drastically cut your photo organising time by 90%.
- Why anyone can confidently use photo organising software even if you hate technology.
- What programs I recommend and which to avoid (I have strict criteria for very specific reasons!)

<https://cf.allisonleephoto.com.au/software-workshop53646702>

My Great-Grandfather's Secrets: Using DNA, Oral History, and Historical Context to Discover Untold Stories with Elizabeth Hodges, Tues., March 4, 2:30 ET, Allen County Public Library. Join Elizabeth as she shares a personal story of secrets and discovery. Elizabeth's family history journey began with a deeply personal mission: provide her elderly grandmother, Winnie, long-sought answers to the mystery of Winnie's father's true story. This path led her into a complex research terrain full of surprising discoveries. Learn how she combined DNA, traditional research methods, and oral history to unravel this mystery and develop a greater understanding of the importance of contextualizing her ancestors' stories within the broader scope of history. <https://acpl.libnet.info/event/12834957>

Ukraine as a Place of Economic Imagination (1870-2022), March 5, 5 – 6:30 pm New York time, register in advance for zoom session. A lecture by Max Trecker, Visiting Associate Professor, Department of History, University of Pittsburgh, hosted by the Ukrainian Research Institute, Harvard University. Like no other country in Europe, Ukraine served as a projection surface for economic ideas in the modern era. What all these ideas had in common was that they attested to Ukraine's—in theory—great potential, provided that the space was only reshaped in the right way. In his research project, Prof. Trecker asks the following questions: Why was Ukraine repeatedly the focus of large-scale economic planning? Why could these imaginaries be reproduced over a long period of time? Who were the subjects behind the idea of Ukraine as a potent economic space at what time?

https://www.huri.harvard.edu/event/max-trecker-ukraine-place-economic-imagination-1870-2022?occ_id=0

RootsTech 2025, March 6-8, 2025, online worldwide and in-person in Salt Lake. 200+ new online sessions in over 26 languages. 2025 Class Preview. Here is a sneak peek at all of the new sessions coming to RootsTech in 2025. This list changes frequently, so come back often and plan to start building your schedule in January. First Keynotes Announced for RootsTech 2025 have been added to their website. <https://www.familysearch.org/en/rootstech/> and <https://www.familysearch.org/en/rootstech/schedule/preview>

A Case Study Workshop in Ukrainian Jewish Genealogy with a Special Q&A by Alex Krakovsky and Ellie Vance, Russian Genealogist Expert (Russian Empire). Alex is a Jewish-Ukrainian Genealogist. Sun. March 9, 1 pm Pacific (1.5 hours), Santa Cruz Jewish Genealogy Society. Non-members pay \$5.00 US. Not sure where to start researching your Jewish ancestors from Ukraine? Or are you looking to advance your research skills in Ukrainian research? Whether you are a beginner or a more experienced researcher, you'll be sure to learn something new in this case study and Q&A. <https://scjgs.org/> and check under "Upcoming Events" and https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=UT5F44CCHSSCQ

Roots Tech 2025 Recap, with Daniel Horowitz, Tue, March 11, 12 pm MDT, Join Daniel Horowitz, genealogy expert at MyHeritage, for a detailed review of all the exciting MyHeritage announcements and events that took place at RootsTech! Hear all about the biggest news from the conference and enjoy some behind-the-scenes tidbits from a MyHeritage insider. <https://familytreewebinars.com/webinar/rootstech-2025-recap/>

Have Questions? Get Answers for Galicia, Austria-Hungary with Michelle Chubenko, March 10, 6 pm MST, after registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. If any problems registering, then email Michelle at michelle@jerseyrootsgenealogy.com https://us02web.zoom.us/join/pc-0VHhoST6SPsT7wPC_1w#/registration

WikiTree Saturday Roundup, Saturdays, 10 am EST, (March 15, 29, April 5). WikiTree is a site where you can document your family history, collaborate on genealogy research, look into your ancestry and heritage, be fanatics at joining challenges, and search for friendly cousins through DNA matches. Live on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ot7McMppEUM> and check at <https://www.youtube.com/@WikiTreeers>

Grandma Said She Was From Poznań: An Introduction to Polish Genealogy with Julie Roberts Szczepankiewicz, March 19, 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm, (2 hours ahead of us in Alberta so 4:30 pm start), in-person and Zoom presentation sponsored by the Hamilton East Public Library. For information and registration, please visit (not posted on the website as of Nov. 24) <https://hepl.libnet.info/events?l=Noblesville,Virtual>

5 Resources for Eastern European Research by Michelle Chubenko, March 19, 6-8 pm MDT, East European Genealogical Society (Winnipeg), hybrid meeting but a Zoom link is only sent to EEGS members. <https://eegsociety.org/events>

Picture the Past: An Introduction to AI Images for Family Historians with Steve Little, Fri., March 28, 12 pm, members only, Legacy Family Tree Webinars. Learn how to use artificial intelligence to transform written records and family stories into memorable images. Whether recreating a long-lost family homestead or visualizing your ancestors' daily lives, discover how today's AI technology can add a new dimension to your family history research. This webinar will show genealogists how to use the best AI image generators available today and demonstrate the methods for getting the best results from them. <https://familytreewebinars.com/webinar/picture-the-past-an-introduction-to-ai-images-for-family-historians/>

Make a Family History Photo Book in Three Days, April 2025, Family Tree University, \$99.99 US, 23 lessons, with Sunny Jane Morton. In this workshop you will learn how to make a 20-page photo book using a combination of photographs, documents, and text to tell their ancestors' stories. <https://university.familytreemagazine.com/courses/make-a-family-history-photo-book-in-three-days-april-2025>

Organizing Your Genealogy Files, with Drew Smith, Thurs., April 3, 5 pm MDT, Legacy Family Tree Webinars. Overwhelmed with too many paper documents and digital files? Learn to organize these so that you'll quickly find just the one you need. <https://familytreewebinars.com/webinar/organizing-your-genealogy-files/>

GPTs for Family History: Unlocking the Potential of AI with Andrew Redfern, Thurs., April 3, 6 pm, register for free, Legacy Family Tree Webinars. Explore the cutting-edge world of Generative Pre-trained Transformers (GPTs) and their applications in family history in this innovative webinar. You'll learn about the various GPT models available, how they can be utilised to enhance your genealogical research, and the benefits they offer in terms of efficiency and creativity. The session will also provide a guide on how to create your own GPT tailored to your family history needs, from data preparation to fine-tuning the model. Whether you're a seasoned researcher or new to AI, this webinar will equip you with the knowledge and tools to leverage GPTs in uncovering and preserving your family's stories. <https://familytreewebinars.com/webinar/gpts-for-family-history-unlocking-the-potential-of-ai/>

DNA testing: when the unexpected knocks on your door with Janna Helshtein, Fri., April 4, 5 am MST, register for free, Legacy Family Tree Webinar. This captivating webinar presents real-life stories of individuals who took a DNA test and received answers to questions they never asked. Each story opens the door to unexpected revelations, presenting profound ethical and moral dilemmas, the complex emotions and challenging decisions people need to make when unexpected information is revealed. How far should one go to uncover the truth? This webinar will echo long after it ends. Don't miss out on these gripping tales of DNA surprises. <https://familytreewebinars.com/webinar/dna-testing-when-the-unexpected-knocks-on-your-door/>

FamilySearch Catalog: The Sears Christmas Catalogue for Genealogists with Lianne Kruger (President of the Alberta Genealogical Society), Fri, April 4, 7 am MST, Legacy Family Tree Webinar. Did you mark your wish list in the Sears Christmas catalog as a child? FamilySearch Catalog lists everything available in the FamilySearch Library. Many of these items are also available online, at FamilySearch Centers and Affiliated Libraries. Items include books, online materials, microfilm, microfiche, and publications. This session will go through the steps on how to search by location, surname, title, author, subject, or keywords, and combinations of these. Learn to find where the items are located and what type of media they are stored in. Search online in film images, and adjust their image or zoom in and out. When you find records for your research, mark each to view later in a to-do list of items which may be printed to the library when you get in person. See how the FamilySearch Wiki will help find records for an area anywhere. <https://familytreewebinars.com/webinar/familysearch-catalog-the-sears-christmas-catalog-for-genealogists/>

Advocacy for Genealogy with Alec Ferretti, Fri. April 4, 8 am, Legacy Family Tree Webinar. From overbearing privacy laws to poor funding to archives, genealogists' access to the historical records we need are always under threat. Learn why genealogists need to take an active role in fighting for records access, what genealogists have already been doing, and what we can do going forward! <https://familytreewebinars.com/webinar/advocacy-for-genealogy/>

From Research to Writing: AI Tools for Genealogists with Nicole Elder Dyer, Fri. April 4, 9 am, Legacy Family Tree Webinar. Writing about your genealogy research can be challenging. Assembling genealogical conclusions requires time, persistence, and dedication. Learn how generative AI tools can help – whether you're writing a biography, research report, or proof argument. Tools like ChatGPT and Claude can turn research logs into reports and timelines into narrative. Providing text to the AI tools help increase accuracy and limit errors. Generative AI tools can increase your writing efficiency, but your personal style may be lost. Learn how to maintain your unique voice while increasing productivity. We will also discuss when to disclose writing assistance from AI tools and how to cite them. <https://familytreewebinars.com/webinar/from-research-to-writing-ai-tools-for-genealogists/>

How to Use MyHeritage DNA to Get the Most Out of Your DNA Test Results, Even If You've Already Tested Elsewhere with Rick Crume, Fri., April 4, 10 am, Legacy Family Tree Webinar. MyHeritage DNA offers a key feature missing from its main competitors: a chromosome browser. That tool lets you view the DNA segments that you share with your matches. Export your matching segment data to DNA Painter and you can determine exactly what DNA you inherited from the ancestors you share with your DNA match. MyHeritage DNA even accepts DNA results from other DNA testing

companies, so you can import that information into MyHeritage DNA and get matching segment data to use with DNA Painter. In this webinar, you'll get step-by-step instructions.

<https://familytreewebinars.com/webinar/how-to-use-myheritage-dna-to-get-the-most-out-of-your-dna-test-results-even-if-youve-already-tested-elsewhere/>

Boosting Your Genealogy Research: How to Leverage the Google Translate Chrome Extension with Natalie Webb, Fri, April 4, 11 am, Legacy Family Tree Webinar. Did you know that the Google Translate tool you rely on as a genealogist also comes in a convenient browser extension? With this extension, you can instantly translate text right on the page you're viewing, without the hassle of switching tabs or opening a new window. It's a seamless way to break down language barriers while staying focused on your research!

<https://familytreewebinars.com/webinar/boosting-your-genealogy-research-how-to-leverage-the-google-translate-chrome-extension/>

Piecing Together History: Using Maps and Gazetteers to Rediscover Eastern European Towns, Sunday, April 6, 1 pm Pacific, with Michelle Chubenko, Global Jewish Genealogy Society, non-members pay \$5.00 US, zoom link will be sent the week of the event. Our ancestor's lives were more than the life events of birth, marriage and death. Yet, finding already constructed historical vignettes for where they lived aren't always readily available. During the presentation, Michelle will share how to use published materials such as gazetteers, schematisms, directories and maps, to build the historical image of your ancestral town/village. She will demonstrate how to use the statistical data and incorporate visual details using a variety of examples from locations across Central and Eastern Europe. <https://www.globaljgs.org/upcoming-events/> and to register: https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=DZUCR9QUE2FLQ

Foundations in DNA 2 of 5: Understanding and Using Y-DNA and mtDNA with Blaine Bettinger, Wed., April 9, 12 pm, register for free, Legacy Family Tree Webinar. Y-DNA and mtDNA have revolutionized genealogical research, breaking through barriers that once seemed insurmountable. This session dives into the unique inheritance patterns of Y-DNA and mtDNA, showing how these tests trace ancient ancestry and identify relationships both close and distant. Gain insights into their application for solving lineage mysteries and uncovering ancestral connections.

<https://familytreewebinars.com/webinar/foundations-in-dna-2-of-5-understanding-and-using-y-dna-and-mtdna/>

120+ Tips & Sources for Finding Ancestral Photos Online & Offline, by Katherine R. Willson, April 12, 2-4 pm Central Time, Appleton Public Library. Discover more than 120 tips and sources for locating ancestral photos from print media, various organizations and repositories, online sources, as well as from distant relatives we haven't yet met or even know.

<https://appleton-wi.whofi.com/calendar/event/1253633>

Make a Family History Photo Book - April 2025, Family Tree University, starts in April, \$99.99 US, 23 lessons. You can make a family history book in 3 days! In this workshop, you will learn how to make a 20-page photo book using a combination of photographs, documents, and text to tell their ancestors' stories.

<https://university.familytreemagazine.com/courses/make-a-family-history-photo-book-in-three-days-april-2025>

From the Mid-Atlantic to New Frontiers: Tracing the Migration Patterns of Your Ancestors, with Michelle Chubenko, April 24, 7:30 pm ET, Fairfax Genealogical Society, virtual session. This presentation explores migration patterns of those who migrated from the Mid-Atlantic region to places westward. Participants will learn about the economic, social, and political factors driving these movements, including land opportunities, industrial growth, and cultural shifts. Using maps, historical documents, and case studies, attendees will learn about tools to trace their ancestors' footsteps and uncover the stories behind their journeys. The session will also address the challenges of tracking movements across the country, including changes in records, naming conventions, and shifting boundaries. Whether your family's journey spanned a few miles or several states, this presentation offers strategies to strengthen your understanding of your ancestors' migrations.

https://www.fxgs.org/content.aspx?page_id=4091&club_id=912730&item_id=2518969

Unlock Your Family History with Transkribus, a Powerful AI Tool for Genealogists, with Jan Gronski, Sunday, April 27, 1 pm Pacific time, Global Jewish Genealogy Society, non-members pay \$5.00 US, zoom link will be sent the week of the

event. Dive into the world of automated text recognition with Transkribus, a powerful AI tool for genealogists working with historical documents in key languages which are important to the Jewish community such as Polish, Russian, German, Yiddish, Hebrew, and more. This hands-on workshop will guide participants through the essential steps of using existing language models to transcribe paragraph-based materials accurately. <https://www.globaljgs.org/upcoming-events/> and to register: https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=NTU4K4WXCUAJS

Google Earth for Genealogists - May 2025, Family Tree University, \$99.99 US, 42 lessons, starts in May. Travel in your ancestors' footsteps with Google Earth. This tool for genealogists will help you pinpoint the starting location of your immigrant ancestors and experience faraway locations to bring depth and a new perspective to your family history. <https://university.familytreemagazine.com/courses/google-earth-for-genealogists-may-2025>

Navigating Revision Lists, a Hands-on Workshop, with Hailey Thompson, Tues., May 6, 4 pm Pacific time, Global Jewish Genealogy Society, non-members pay \$5.00 US, zoom link will be sent the week of the event. Join us for this unique opportunity to learn, strategize and study how to effectively read, locate, translate and summarize the contents of these important documents. The Ревизские сказки Reviska Skazka ("Revision Lists") are some of the most important records for Jewish Russian genealogical research beginning in 1719 through 1858. These lists, used to levy taxes, contain the names of all taxable persons from each city, town, village or estate arranged by household and provide the relationship to the head of house and ages over time. <https://www.globaljgs.org/upcoming-events/> and to register: https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=NCH5JLRF65TY8

Researching Your Ancestry in the Austrian Crownland of Galicia (2025), **waitlist**. With Michelle Chubenko. This institute-level course is designed for those who have identified their immigrant ancestor's hometown in Galicia (Königreich Galizien), an Austro-Hungarian Empire crownland, and are seeking in-depth instruction on Empire's history and genealogically relevant record groups beyond birth, marriage, and death records. Instruction will be given on record types which can be used for not only Polish and Ukrainian, but German and Jewish ancestry. There will be hands-on exercises in class and optional homework assignments to help you gain experience. Attendees will have the opportunity to (re)construct the historical context for their ancestral village/town using many sources like gazetteers and historical maps as well as a mapping exercise using Google Earth. <https://genealogy.chubenko.us/researching-your-ancestry-in-galicia>

What to do when metrical records don't exist? Limited, free download access of a PDF with Michelle Chubenko. Thank you for your interest in my presentation – What to do when metrical records don't exist? For a limited time, the recorded presentation and chat log will be available online. Follow the links in the PDF file to access the files. <https://genealogy.chubenko.us/what-to-do-metrical-records>

Metro Continuing Education, Edmonton Public Schools, Adult Online Learning

Includes but not limited to, Write Your Life Story, Beginners Guide to Getting Published, The Keys to Effective Editing, Write and Publish Your Nonfiction Book, Photography Suite, Creative Writing Value Suite, Beginning Writers Workshop, Writing Essentials, Discover Digital Photography, Grammar Refresher etc.

<https://www.metrocontinuingeducation.ca/adult-continuing-education/online-learning/>
<https://www.ed2go.com/metro/SearchResults.aspx#SearchBar>

The Nashi Predky/Our Ancestors Family History Group

The Ukrainian History and Education Center in New Jersey, USA

<https://ukrhec.org/collections-research/family-history-group> and <https://ukrhec.org/events>

Ukrainian Genealogy Group – National Capital Region (Ottawa, Canada)

<https://uggncr.org/>

FamilySearch Library Webinars, Ongoing and repeated sessions

<https://www.familysearch.org/en/library/classes> and <https://www.facebook.com/familysearchlibrary>

Legacy Family Tree Webinars, Upcoming Webinars

<https://familytreewebinars.com/upcoming-webinars/> and in their Webinar Library, you can choose from 2,325 classes at <https://familytreewebinars.com/webinar-library/>

Family Tree Magazine has free resources and newsletters at <https://familytreemagazine.com/newsletter-signup/> and <https://university.familytreemagazine.com/collections> (cost money to take) and <https://store.familytreemagazine.com/learn/> (various costs per session).

Alberta Genealogical Society (AGS), both the AGS and their Edmonton Branch, have research teams to help members and non-members in sourcing and finding key documents in their search for their family. If you are researching relatives in Alberta, please contact them as they are skilled research groups. At AGS is research@abgenealogy.ca and at the Edmonton Branch, AGS is research@edmontongenealogy.ca and the main website: <https://www.abgenealogy.ca/>

Alberta Genealogical Society, <https://www.abgenealogy.ca/ags-library-research-centre> and <https://www.abgenealogy.ca/ags-research-services-new>

The Edmonton Branch currently has many vacancies and if you are interested, please check out their website at: <https://www.edmontongenealogy.ca/volunteer-opportunities>

Edmonton Branch, Research Services, <https://www.edmontongenealogy.ca/research-services>

Also note that the **Edmonton Branch of AGS, has a new Membership Chair** and Bradley Pierson is the founder of Trouvay which specializes in using DNA (genetic) genealogy to help people identify their families: adoption, non-paternity, historic and forensic. <https://www.trouvay.ca/>

This young Edmonton entrepreneur is helping to reunite families with DNA genealogy, Bradley Pierson, 25, collaborates with law enforcement agencies to solve cold cases, CBC News, posted Sept. 1, 2024, <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/edmonton/investigative-genetic-genoalogy-1.7309928>

Articles, videos, publications, etc.:

New database helps users to find scanned Ukrainian archive records in a few clicks, by Vera Miller, posted Feb. 22. A new database gets you directly to the Ukrainian archive scanned records on FamilySearch, Babyn Yar Holocaust Memorial Center and Alex Krakovsky's massive database without the searching frustration. The man (Oleksandr Tovmach) behind this database has bigger plans for Ukrainian genealogy research. This post comes with a 3-page guide on using the database. No other database makes it this easy to find scanned Ukrainian archive records. <https://lostrussianfamily.wordpress.com/2025/02/22/new-database-helps-users-to-find-scanned-ukrainian-archive-records-in-a-few-clicks/> and Inspector Duck database is at <https://inspector.duckarchive.com/archives>

Work of Ukrainian archivists in 2024, the main public report by Anatolii Khromov, Head of the State Archival Service of Ukraine, posted on Feb. 21. What has changed in the archives of Ukraine for 2024 year? 34 million digital copies! Ukraine is among the world leaders in digitizing archives! Head of the State Archive of Ukraine Anatolii Khromov summarized the year 2024:

- 📌 638 new units in the National Archive Fund.
- 📌 1140 exhibitions and extensive restoration of documents.
- 📌 17 new regulatory acts to preserve the archival heritage.

💬 Head of the State Archive Service of Ukraine Anatolii Khromov:

"We confess the principles of transparency, openness and accessibility, so that everyone can understand what principles and priority directions we are moving"

💎 Priorities for 2025 year:

- Further preservation and development of the National Archive Fund.

- Active digitization and open access to archives.

- Strengthening international cooperation.

📖 Read more at: <https://uacrisis.org/uk/reliz-21-02-2025> (can translate to English)

<https://www.facebook.com/anatoly.khromov> and <https://www.facebook.com/uacrisis.ua>

The Plan to Scan: Digitizing Out-of-copyright Publications. A year ago today (Feb. 20), Library and Archives Canada (LAC) embarked on an ambitious project in collaboration with Internet Archive Canada (IAC) to digitize a collection of up to 80,000 out-of-copyright publications from 1322 to 1920. This project was born out of a merging of mandate and mission: preserving Canada's documentary heritage and making it freely accessible for all. It's the motivation behind our dedicated imaging technicians every single day on the job.

<https://library-archives.canada.ca/eng/corporate/news/Pages/the-plan-to-scan-digitizing-out-of-copyright-publications.aspx>

Demystifying AI: A Layperson's Guide to Artificial Intelligence and Its Impact on Our World, by Glenn Hopper, CFO and Finance Author, Oracle NetSuite, <https://www.netsuite.com/portal/assets/pdf/wp-demystifying-ai.pdf>

How to Use AI for Genealogy for Free, by Alistair McGowan, bespokeGENEALOGY, Feb. 4, 2023.

ChatGPT can assist with genealogy research by:

- Answering questions about historical events, places and dates that may relate to ancestors.
- Providing information on genealogy resources and tools.
- Offering suggestions for further research.
- Generating names that were common during a specific time period.
- Interpreting genealogy-related terms and concepts. Note: ChatGPT's training data only goes up until 2021, so it might not have the most up-to-date information on genealogy research.

<https://bespokegenealogy.com/ai-for-genealogy-for-free/>

Using ChatGPT for Genealogy – Accurately, by Amy Johnson Crow, posted July 7, 2023

<https://www.amyjohnsoncrow.com/using-chatgpt-for-genealogy-accurately/>

Getting Started: The 3 Free AI Tools I Use for Genealogy Research, by Lisa Lisson, posted Sept. 2, 2024

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q8oJTK3sDB0>

Transform Your Genealogy Facts Into Ancestor Stories With AI Tools, by Ellen Thompson-Jennings (lead of the DNA SIG), posted Oct. 28, 2024, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z_5tUAFczuk

(Each of these AI tools has its own strengths, so it might be worth trying a few to see which one works best for your specific needs. Also watch for these tools hallucinating and you have to double check the results. And the technology is developing quickly so the most current information, is probably more correct.)

Information Culture and the Archival Record, by Steven Lubar, *The American Archivist*, Vol. 62, No. 1 (Spring, 1999), pp 10-22. New technologies pose new challenges for archivists not only because they change the material nature of archives, but also because they change ideas about information and its place in our culture... For archivists to fully understand and appreciate their archives, and to get the fullest use out of them, they must go beyond issues of reliability and authenticity to consider connectivity and context, use and power.

https://www.academia.edu/30384248/Information_Culture_and_the_Archival_Record

Archival Studies in Ukraine: Between Tradition and Challenges of Information Era, by Maryna Paliienko,

The article it devoted to analysis of the new trends in the archival education in Ukraine connecting with evolution of society and archives in information era. The author explores the models of archival education in Ukraine in a context of a new archival paradigm. Special attention is given to the activity of the Archival Studies Department at Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv which offers a distinctive training program on archival theory, history and methodology as well

as on Source Studies and Auxiliary Sciences of History. However, the challenges of a new information era led to the establishment in some centers for records managers' training. Nowadays educators and archivists recognize the necessity of modernizing archival training programs, bringing them to the contemporary needs and archival practice. The author offers her view on getting balance between History, Memory, and Informational Technologies at the Archival Studies' curricula.

[https://www.academia.edu/58723518/Archival Studies in Ukraine Between Tradition and Challenges of Information Era?email_work_card=view-paper](https://www.academia.edu/58723518/Archival_Studies_in_Ukraine_Between_Tradition_and_Challenges_of_Information_Era?email_work_card=view-paper)

Archives, Records, and Power: The Making of Modern Memory, by Joan M. Schwartz and Terry Cook, The National Archives of Canada, Queens University, *Archival Science* 2: 1-19, 2002. Archives as institutions and records as documents are generally seen by academic and other users, and by society generally, as passive resources to be exploited for various historical and cultural purposes... In generating discussion and reaction, we hope to force keepers as well as users of archives to confront, head-on, current intellectual concerns about intentionality, instrumentality, representation and power. [https://www.academia.edu/57103485/Archives records and power The making of modern memory](https://www.academia.edu/57103485/Archives_records_and_power_The_making_of_modern_memory)

Alberta Geographical Names Program and its "Alberta Geographical Names Web Map" which is an interactive online tool that provides information on the stories and people behind Alberta's place names. It includes information on the names of close to 9,000 places and sites in the province. The map can be used to find out how a town got its name or if a particular historical figure has a place named after them. <https://www.alberta.ca/alberta-geographical-names-program> and <https://geospatial.alberta.ca/portal/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=a297e74e4fb4445db337df3850652862>

William C. Wonders Map Collection, University of Alberta, located on the 4th floor of Cameron Library, holds approximately 500,000 print maps, 800,000 aerial photographs and over 5,000 atlases. Our comprehensive map and atlas collection provides thematic and topographic maps for most countries and regions of the world with an emphasis on Edmonton, Alberta, Northern Canada, Eastern Europe and the United Kingdom. Our atlas collection includes national, local and thematic atlases and gazetteers. In addition to our extensive print map collection, the collection has a growing number of digitized maps. <https://guides.library.ualberta.ca/map-collection-resources/home> and <https://guides.library.ualberta.ca/map-collection-resources/frequently-requested-digital-map-resources>

LibraryThing is a home for your books, movies and music. It is a free, library-quality catalog which tracks reading progress or your whole library. This app lets you access your books from anywhere, connect with other readers, and get suggestions for what to read next. <https://www.librarything.com/> and <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/LibraryThing>

The strong efforts to post archive records online continue throughout Ukraine, by Vera Miller, Lost Russian & Ukrainian Family blog, posted on Feb. 8. The efforts to get Ukrainian archive records online is not losing any steam. Anatolii Khromov, head of the State Archive Service of Ukraine, announced on January 30 that 31 million archival pages were digitized in 2024, outpacing the records of previous years. <https://lostrussianfamily.wordpress.com/2025/02/08/the-strong-efforts-to-post-archive-records-online-continue-throughout-ukraine/>

Dear Grandma, I love you but your dates are wrong: when family stories conflict with records, by Marc McDermott, posted on Feb. 21, Genealogy Explained blog, Here's the truth about family history: Everyone's lying. Not intentionally. But they are. Want to know the biggest obstacle to accurate genealogy research? It's not missing records. It's not destroyed documents. It's not even the Great Fire of 1922 that wiped out countless Irish records. It's your sweet grandmother insisting that her great-grandfather fought in the Civil War. (Spoiler: He was born in 1870). <https://www.genealogyexplained.com/blog/dear-grandma-i-love-you-but-your-dates-are-wrong-when-family-stories-conflict-with-records/>

The Pull of Place: Answering Your Ancestral Call, by Marc McDermott, posted Feb. 13, Genealogy Explained blog, You're staring at that village name on your computer screen. Again. Five generations of your family lived there. Worked there. Built lives there. And now here you are, a century and an ocean away, trying to piece together their world through

pixels and papers. But deep down, you know: Documents can only take you so far. Every serious genealogist reaches this moment. When records aren't enough anymore.

<https://www.genealogyexplained.com/blog/the-pull-of-place-answering-your-ancestral-call/>

Through Your Great-Grandchildren's Eyes: Your Digital Legacy in 2075, by Marc McDermott, posted Feb. 3, Genealogy Explained blog, Picture this: Your great-granddaughter in 2075, curled up on her hover-couch (okay, maybe just a regular couch), diving into the digital time capsule of your life. And boy, is she in for a treat.

<https://www.genealogyexplained.com/blog/what-records-will-our-descendants-find-about-us-in-2075/>

The Case of the Missing Ancestors: 8 Genealogy Tips from Nancy Drew by Ellen Shindelman Kowitz, updated Feb. 2025, Family Tree Magazine. For more than 100 years, mystery books have ignited a love for problem-solving in children while also introducing them to the basics of genealogy research. An army of writers under pseudonyms penned popular series such as Nancy Drew and The Hardy Boys, injecting their stories with key skills used by family historians every day.

<https://familytreemagazine.com/strategies/nancy-drew-genealogy-detective/>

Polish Genealogy #1: How to find the parish of my ancestors? PolishOrigins, YouTube, posted 4 years ago. We show you a few hints and tools we use in our research that can help you in determining to which parish the village of your ancestors once belonged. Parish (Roman-Catholic, Greek-Catholic, Lutheran and others) records are one of the most important sources in genealogy research. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=yFDfJZFNuXY&sfnsn=mo>

5 Strategies for Deciphering Old Handwriting on Documents, by Danny Arsenault, Family Tree Magazine, updated Feb. The state archives finally got back to you. At last, the copies are in your hands. Or maybe you were rifling around in the attic and uncovered a box of letters nobody knew about. It's the document that could blast through that fortress like brick wall you've been banging your head against. You'd feel like you just won the genealogical lottery, except for one minor detail: You can't read a word of it. Fortunately, it's possible to decipher old, illegible and oddly spelled documents. By employing a few tools, a little knowledge and these five tricks, you can read almost any document.

<https://familytreemagazine.com/records/documentary-evidence/>

Trace Your Roots: A Beginner's Guide to Genealogy, \$59.99 US, Family Tree Shop, with Amy Johnson Crow. Do you have a box of old family photos that you want to learn more about? Did you take a DNA test and now you are curious about finding out how those match up with all those family stories? Do you have a family story that you want to confirm and learn more about? The answers to these questions are closer than you think! Ready to uncover your family's story? Dive into our independent study course and discover how to research your family tree like a pro! Learn at your own pace.

<https://store.familytreemagazine.com/trace-your-roots-a-beginners-guide>

DNA Q&A: DNA Tests and Privacy by Diahn Southard, Family Tree Magazine. When it comes to DNA tests, privacy is sometimes a concern. DNA expert Diahn Southard weighs in. <https://familytreemagazine.com/dna/dna-tests-privacy/>

How to Print a Family Tree to Enjoy and Share by Andrew Koch, Family Tree Magazine. Family tree displays can make thoughtful gifts for loved ones—or bait for luring curious relatives to genealogy. They are also valuable research tools: summing up your progress, identifying any gaps, and providing an at-a-glance reference. More than that, they're visual reminders of where you come from. <https://familytreemagazine.com/projects/how-to-print-family-tree/>

AI & Genealogy: Revolutionizing Research or Risking Privacy? With Lisa Louise Cooke's Genealogy Gems, YouTube, she discusses the impact of artificial intelligence (AI) on genealogy research, exploring its evolution, ethical considerations, and the importance of data privacy. Genealogists need to understand AI's capabilities and limitations and develop a balanced approach to its use in research. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HK3u2FODFJ8>

Artificial Intelligence for Genealogy Research, and Family History Writing with Lisa Louise Cooke's Genealogy Gems, YouTube. (Audio only). She discusses the impact of artificial intelligence (AI) on genealogy research, exploring its evolution, ethical considerations, and the importance of data privacy. Genealogists need to understand AI's capabilities

and limitations and develop a balanced approach to its use in research. She also covers the significance of being aware of data privacy when using AI tools. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nHNLQDIK5nl>

Ask the Experts with Rhett Dabbling and Diahn Southard, YouTube, Rhett started the conversation by sharing his background and how he ended up as the RootsTech Learning Manager. We talked about the planning process for RootsTech. They start over a year in advance and gather lots of data to try and predict what the hot topics will be for the next conference. One of their sources is previous conference data -- Rhett specifically mentioned that in 2024, the Beginner series of classes was only in-person. While that series was very popular, the rest of world missed out on the opportunity to attend those classes. So this year, the Beginner series will be streamed online!
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nuMdBORQBy4>

A Second Cousin Found – How DNA Helped a Holocaust Survivor Connect to My Family, by Lara Diamond, Lara's Jewnealogy blog, posted Feb. 16.
<https://larasgenealogy.blogspot.com/2025/02/a-second-cousin-found-how-dna-helped.html>

Eastern European Newspapers, by Lara Diamond, Lara's Jewnealogy blog, posted on Feb. 10. Have you ever used newspapers as a resource for researching your Eastern European family? I've been playing around with a site that allows you to do just that. It predominantly covers Ukraine, but there is coverage for neighboring countries as well; the site contains periodicals in languages including Russian, Yiddish, Ukrainian, Polish, Belorussian and more. Below are some examples of what I've found for my own family--and how you can potentially find articles about your relatives too.
<https://larasgenealogy.blogspot.com/2025/02/eastern-european-newspapers.html>

Ukrainian DNA group on FamilyTreeDNA which currently has over 3,500 members and continues to grow actively. The goals of the group are to exchange information, search for common ancestors, explore migration routes from ancient times to the present, analyze and structure the results of all participants, with a focus on Y-DNA (ancient origins along the direct paternal line) and mtDNA (ancient origins along the direct maternal line), though not limited to them. Participation in the group is voluntary and free of charge. If you have Ukrainian origins - even if partial or mixed - along any ancestral line, from Ukraine or abroad (including Lemkos and Rusyns), I warmly invite you to join our group. If you tested with another company (Ancestry, MyHeritage, or 23andMe), you can easily transfer your results to FTDNA for free. The transfer process takes just a few minutes and will allow you to see DNA matches in FTDNA's database and to join our group with your newly created FTDNA account. Besides, FTDNA offers a few other test types for more detailed research of the direct paternal line (Y-37, Y-111, Big Y-700 tests) and the direct maternal line (mtFull Sequence test). If you already have an FTNDA account - simply sign in to it and send a request to join the group. Steps to join:

1. Go to the group page.
2. Click JOIN button.
3. At the bottom of the next page submit brief information about your known surnames and where they come from.
4. Confirm the join request.

Feel free to reach out if you need help transferring results or joining the group.

<https://www.familytreedna.com/groups/ukrainian-dna/about>

Posted on Facebook on Feb. 16 at 6:34 am by Taras Kravchenko at the Galicia Family History Group PLUA
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/644292589109006/> (private group)

MyHeritage Adds 1.2 Billion Historical Records in January 2025 by Esther, MyHeritage Blog, Feb. 5 posted. In January 2025, we published 1.2 billion historical records from 16 new and updated collections. These records come from the United States, the United Kingdom, Canada, France, Spain, Israel, and Sweden. The collections include births, deaths, obituaries, marriage records, divorces, wills and probate administrations, military records, census records, and an extensive range of newspaper archives. Many of these collections also feature images.
<https://blog.myheritage.com/2025/02/myheritage-adds-1-2-billion-historical-records-in-january-2025/>

7 Tips to Find Your Long-Lost Relatives by Admin. MyHeritage Blog, Feb. 14 posted. Have you ever stared at old family photos, wondering what happened to that aunt who moved away decades ago? Or perhaps you've heard stories of

siblings separated in childhood. These missing pieces of your family puzzle leave an ache that grows deeper with each passing year. <https://blog.myheritage.com/2025/02/tips-to-find-your-long-lost-relatives/>

Second Cousins Explained: A Genealogist's Guide to Distant Kin by Admin. MyHeritage Blog, Feb. 15 posted. Have you ever wondered about those distant cousins you've heard whispers of — the ones who share a great-grandparent? Finding them can feel like searching for a needle in a haystack. But these long-lost relatives hold valuable keys to your family history. <https://blog.myheritage.com/2025/02/second-cousins-explained/>

Counting Generations for Genealogists: Understanding Family Lineages by Admin. MyHeritage Blog, Feb. 20 posted. Do you ever feel a little lost staring at your sprawling family tree? Names and dates are there, but understanding the real shape of your family lineage and how generations truly connect can be surprisingly confusing. Misunderstanding generational links can lead to inaccurate timelines, muddled cousin connections, and even send your research down the wrong path. Imagine accidentally skipping a generation, misidentifying a relative, or missing crucial clues buried within your tree's generational gaps! <https://blog.myheritage.com/2025/02/counting-generations-for-genealogists/>

10 Must-Do Genealogy Projects for February by Will at Ancestral Findings.com, includes making travel plans for upcoming genealogy conferences, join a new genealogical organization, write another chapter in your family history book and read a new genealogy or history book. <https://ancestralfindings.com/10-must-do-genealogy-projects-for-february/>

How to Make the Most of RootsTech 2025: A Step-by-Step Guide for Genealogists by Lisa Lisson, Are You My Cousin? Genealogy blog, <https://lialisson.com/rootstech-2025-guide-for-genealogists/>

The Best Genealogy Courses Available Now by Rosemary Collins, Who Do You Think You Are? Magazine. Discover how to learn family history skills with our pick of the best online and correspondence genealogy courses. <https://www.whodoyouthinkyouaremagazine.com/feature/the-best-genealogy-courses-available-now>

Humanitarian Aid:

United24 was founded in 2022 by Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy to raise funds and support for Ukraine amidst the Russian - Ukrainian war. Today, the initiative distributes funds to the Ukrainian departments that need them the most, including defense and demining, humanitarian and medical aid programs. You can donate directly to United24 by donating through their website <https://u24.gov.ua/>. Or you can also donate through the National Bank of Ukraine's website, which accepts multiple currencies and holds the funds in a special account for Ukrainian relief efforts. <https://bank.gov.ua/en/news/all/natsionalniy-bank-vidkriv-spetsrahunok-dlya-zboru-koshtiv-na-potrebi-armiyi>

Firefighter Aid Ukraine, supporting first responders, hospitals, and the Defence of Ukraine, established in 2014, FFAU has spent nearly a decade working with the State Emergency Services and volunteer brigades in Ukraine, building strong relationships in Kyiv, Lviv, Uzhgorod, Ivano-Frankivsk, Ternopil, Odessa, Chernivtsi, Dnipro, Cherkasy, Mykolaiv, and Nikopol, and to date has delivered almost 300 tonnes of life rescue and health care aid. FFAU is based in Edmonton. (Update: as of Feb. 20th, the 490th tonne was shipped out). <https://www.firefighteraidukraine.com/> and <https://www.facebook.com/firefighteraidukraine>

UCC National – Ukrainian Canadian Congress has launched a new portal “Hromada Portal” which is a unique online guide for the Ukrainian community across the country. This portal is a unified platform that will help you easily find Ukrainian businesses, NGOs, student associations and support for newly arrived Ukrainians in Canada. <https://hromada-portal.ca>

On a side note:

March 01 is the start of the “**International Ideas Month**”. All innovations begin with an idea. What ideas can you come up with? This month of March encourages people to recognize the potential of their ideas and think creatively. The concept originated in 2000 to promote innovation and idea generation. <https://nationaltoday.com/international-ideas-month/> and <https://www.daysoftheyear.com/days/international-ideas-month/>

March 01 is also “**Mărțișor**” in Romania and other territories where Romanians live. The holiday celebrates the end of the dreary winter months and the beginning of spring. Mărțișor is derived from the word ‘Mart’ an old folk word for March, literally meaning ‘little March’. <https://nationaltoday.com/martisor/>

International Women’s Day, March 8, is a global day celebrating the social, economic, cultural, and political achievements of women. The day also marks a call to action for accelerating women’s equality. In Ukraine it is common for men to give the women in his family, flowers on this date.

<https://www.internationalwomensday.com/>

<https://www.canada.ca/en/women-gender-equality/commemorations-celebrations/international-womens-day.html>

St. Patrick’s Day is on Monday, March 17th and marks the death date of Saint Patrick who is the patron saint of Ireland. The day also celebrates the arrival of Christianity in Ireland as well as the culture of Ireland.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Saint_Patrick%27s_Day and <https://www.history.com/topics/st-patricks-day/history-of-st-patricks-day>



Mărțișor



Terry Hoknes who I met via Facebook is posting old maps of Saskatchewan and Alberta. He is also working on the Saskatoon History Project. And he has some Ukrainian ancestors who settled in Fish Creek and Alvena, SK in 1899. His website is at www.TerryHoknes.com and his introduction is at <http://www.terryhoknes.com/introduction.htm>

Terry Hoknes’ official Facebook page is <https://www.facebook.com/groups/472456403800111/user/524906149>

On the last page of this March newsletter are a couple of maps that I copied from what Terry Hoknes posted on Facebook. In the future I plan on finding out what old maps exist in Alberta for Edmonton, Wostok and Primula areas and our provincial area. If you have any leads, please let me (Elaine) know.

Note that spring starts on Thursday, March 20, 2025 (spring equinox) and ends on Thursday, June 19, 2025. Then we have summer starting on Friday, June 20th.

