Get the Most from the GFO for free (and with a GFO membership)

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The GFO Mission: *"To inspire and empower every person to discover and engage with their family history."*

Resources available freely to everyone.

1. Stay informed.
    a. Read the E-News every week, it arrives Thursday evening.
        i. Sign up. Receive only content you want.
        ii. Not receiving it?
            1. Check your spam or junk mail.
            2. Send a message to gfo@gfo.org to ask for help.
    b. Check the calendar regularly.
    c. Follow the GFO on Facebook and/or Instagram.

2. Learn through GFO programs.
    a. GenTalks (8-12/year) usually the third Saturday of the month, 2:30 p.m. (Pacific).
    b. Special Interest Groups (SIGs).
    Click on groups of interest to learn more.
    To join a group, simply register to attend one of the meetings.
    c. Annual Open House in the spring.
    d. Our journal, The Bulletin
    e. Videos (many DNA) on YouTube.

3. Discover resources
    a. GFO Library online catalog (OPALS).
    b. Search the public pages (far right on most GFO website pages).
    This cannot search MemberSpace.
    c. Indexes (browsing indexes is advised)
    d. DigitalArchive and OPALS.
        i. Bibles.
        ii. Documents Collection.
        iii. Historic Columbian Cemetery.
        iv. Manuscripts Collection.
        v. Photo Collection small, but hopefully, growing soon.
        vi. Vertical Files.

For a fee:

Non-members can order lookups in identified resources or general research in our collection here.

Seminars and Classes.

Resources and Services Reserved for GFO Members

4. Use MemberSpace to access:
    a. Databases
        i. American Ancestors for New England research and more (may be temporary)
        ii. Fold3 Library Edition for military records and more (long-term)
        iii. HeritageQuest (long-term)
        iv. HistoryGeo – First landholders and antique maps (long-term)
        v. NewspaperArchive

    b. Digital Collections
        i. Digital Journals
        ii. eBooks
        iii. Indexed images, document images used to create our indexes

5. Use MemberSpace to request lookups* and copies for:
    a. FamilySearch Affiliate or restricted images
    b. Newspapers.com Publishers Extra
    c. FindMyPast
    d. Ancestry.com World Edition
    e. Anything in the GFO Library you would be able to consult if you were physically in the library—within reason. We must abide by copyright restrictions.

    * ”Lookups” means to access images or make copies of specific pages or documents you identify. It does not include doing research.

6. Also use MemberSpace to obtain discounted registration to GFO pay events, view members-only videos, and more.

Links to Resources for Online Databases

Please let me know of any broken links -Laurel

Using American Ancestors

Zoom Demo: The New AmericanAncestors.org
https://www.americanancestors.org/video-library/zoom-demo-new-americanancestorsorg

Using AmericanAncestors.org
https://www.americanancestors.org/education/learning-resources/read/using-americanancestors-org

Searching Databases on AmericanAncestors.org
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DsFL2vliTGA&feature=youtu.be

AmericanAncestors Videos on YouTube
https://www.youtube.com/user/AmericanAncestors/videos

Using Fold3

Ancestry Academy Researching Your Military Ancestors in the U.S.
https://www.ancestryacademy.com/getting-the-most-out-of-fold3

Searching on Fold3
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HT5buu9wWh8

Fold3 Videos on YouTube
https://www.youtube.com/c/fold3/videos

FamilyTree How to Use Fold3.com in 5 Steps
https://www.familytreemagazine.com/websites/fold3-guide/

Fold3® Help Center (click on the menu items on the left to learn more by category)
https://www.fold3.com/tour/

Using HeritageQuest

HeritageQuest Online Overview (may take a moment to load)
https://share.vidyard.com/watch/jBFbBoMTZfqHNoPyuj8J4M?

Top 5 Tips for Finding Family History with Heritage Quest Online
https://share.vidyard.com/watch/ct1euhGEoJ6jdikchqngwR?

Lots of YouTube videos
https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=heritagequest+online

Using HistoryGeo

HistoryGeo.com Map Viewer Helps
https://www.historygeo.com/forlibraries/learn.php

HistoryGeo Videos on YouTube
https://www.youtube.com/user/HistoryGeo1

Dallas Genealogical Society Presentation by Greg Boyd
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J1ih0bFAGhU

HistoryGeo: A blog about maps, history, and family. (Last updated July 2, 2015)
https://blog.historygeo.com/

Using NewspaperArchive

NewspaperArchive's Help Pages
https://newspaperarchive.com/resources/help/

NewspaperArchive Tutorials
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCO_jMuCV-nrPcuTnRSsEs2w/videos