



KELLEY BARRETT

Consulting Genealogist | Vegas Ancestor Hunter
(VAH Consulting)

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SPECIALTIES / PASSIONS

Pacific Northwest ·

Desert Southwest ·

French and German Languages ·

Forensic Genealogy ·

Genetic Genealogy ·

Research Methods ·

Train-the-Trainer

HIGHEST EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)

Purdue University

Industrial / Organizational Psychology

TRAINING / INSTITUTES

Genealogical Institute on
Federal Records (Gen-Fed)

August 2024

Genealogical Research
Institute of Pittsburgh
(GRIP)

Advanced DNA Evidence - June
2024

Salt Lake Institute of
Genealogy (SLIG)

*Gothic Script and Fraktur
Workshop* - April 2024

Genealogy Research in France -
January 2024

Introduction to Genetic Genealogy
- October 2023

Boston University

Genealogical Principles - June
2023

ABOUT ME

A professional researcher, writer and certified Master Trainer, my genealogy journey began in childhood. Family stories of suspicious name changes, disappearances, cattle rustling, and other mysteries sparked my imagination and a lifelong passion for family history. Following a successful career in Human Resources, I turned my skills in investigation, analysis, and documentation toward finding 'lost' relatives, solving family mysteries, and breaking through brick walls.

Follow my genealogy adventures in my blog "Jaunts and Junkets" and learn more by visiting my website www.ancestor-hunter.com.

FEATURED PRESENTATIONS

A Quick and Dirty Guide for Reading Old Handwriting & Script

There is no 'magic pill' that will give a genealogist the ability to easily decipher old handwriting. However, this presentation provides many tried-and-true tips and techniques for improving your skills at making sense of what was written decades or even centuries ago. Practical recommendations for where to turn when you hit a handwriting brick wall are also included.

Discovering More About Mystery DNA Matches

You submitted your DNA test kit and have a list of matches a mile long. You've sent messages. It's been days/weeks/months/years and you're still waiting for a response. Now what? How can you learn more if your matches have gone radio silent? This presentation provides tips and techniques for learning more about genetic matches with or without their active participation.

Family History Made Easy (A Quick Start Guide for Beginners)

Family history research doesn't have to be difficult or expensive. This presentation demonstrates how those new to family history research can get started quickly building both traditional and genetic family trees. Free and low-cost resources are emphasized throughout the presentation.

Health & Safety Orientation for Field Researchers

In the workplace, safety orientation typically involves providing new employees with an overview of the company's safety policies and procedures. The goal is to prepare employees for the hazards they may encounter. In this session, the presenter, a certified Safety and Health Practitioner, will apply key safety principles to the world of genealogists, including visits to cemeteries, court houses, and large repositories.

AFFILIATIONS

 Clark County Nevada
Genealogical Society

Secretary
2023 - 2025

 Council for the
Advancement of
Forensic Genealogy

 Genealogical Speakers
Guild

 National Genealogical
Society

 New England Historic
Genealogical Society

 SLIG Committee
Communications Manager
2024 - 2025
Advertising
2024

 Utah Genealogical
Association

FEATURED PRESENTATIONS

Key Lessons for Genealogists Taken From Years of Conducting Employee Investigations

You may never understand why people do what they do, but their behavior is predictable. The names of the guilty (and the innocent) have all been changed, but the key lessons remain the same. Gathered from over twenty years of conducting employee investigations, this session explores key lessons about gathering and analyzing evidence, conducting interviews, and human nature.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

A Focus on Flexibility

- Most sessions are available for either in-person or virtual presentation.
- All sessions are fully customizable to meet the specific needs and interests of the group.
- New presentations and/or workshops are available upon request.

Additional Services

- Instructional design and development services (instructor-led and web-based learning).
- Private one-on-one coaching and feedback for genealogy speakers/instructors.
- Professional development training for genealogy speakers/instructors, including Train-the-Trainer workshops.