



# KELLEY BARRETT

Consulting Genealogist | Vegas Ancestor Hunter  
(VAH Consulting)

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🌐 [www.ancestor-hunter.com](http://www.ancestor-hunter.com)

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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](http://www.ancestor-hunter.com).

## FEATURED PRESENTATIONS

A Quick and Dirty Guide for Reading Old  
Handwriting & Script

Coming Soon - September 2024

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. 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

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 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

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### 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

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### 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.