

WESTERN MICHIGAN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

PRESENTS

GOT ANCESTORS?! 2017 GOT ANCESTORS?! – LEGAL MATTERS!

FEATURING

THE LEGAL GENEALOGIST – JUDY G. RUSSELL, JD, CG, CGL

AT THE

SALVATION ARMY GRAND RAPIDS KROC CENTER

SATURDAY 14TH OCTOBER 9AM – 4:45PM

- **COPYRIGHT MYTHCONCEPTIONS**
- **DNA AND THE GOLDEN RULE**
- **WHEN WORLDS COLLIDE**
- **NO VITALS? NO PROBLEM!**

WMGS Sales Table – Network with other Genealogists – Door Prizes

(See the Schedule page for full details of each session)

OUR SPEAKER – JUDY G. RUSSELL, JD, CG, CGL – IN HER OWN WORDS



My name is Judy Russell. I'm a genealogist with a law degree, and my purpose here at The Legal Genealogist is, in part, to help folks understand the often arcane and even impenetrable legal concepts and terminology that are so very important to those of us studying family history. Without understanding the context in which events took place and records were created, we miss so much of both the significance and the flavor of what happened.

My personal background is, well, eclectic. I have a bachelor's degree in journalism with a political science minor from George Washington University in Washington, D.C. and a law degree from Rutgers School of Law-Newark. I've worked as a newspaper reporter, trade association writer, legal investigator, defense attorney, federal prosecutor, law editor and, for more than 20 years before my retirement in 2014, I was an adjunct member of the faculty at Rutgers Law School.

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I've spent the last decade learning my trade as a genealogist, and hold credentials as a Certified Genealogist® and Certified Genealogical LecturerSM from the Board for Certification of Genealogists® where I currently serve as a member of the Board of Trustees. (continued on page 4).

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QUESTIONS? – SEND EMAIL TO SEMINAR@GOTANCESTORS.COM

REGISTRATION FORM

Please help us reduce costs by using the online registration form on our website at <http://GotAncestors.com/registration/>. You can choose to pay online using your credit card or PayPal, or print out your completed form from your online registration and mail it to us with your payment. If you don't have Internet access, please complete the form below and mail it with your payment to the address at the bottom of this form.

Please use one form per person attending the Saturday Seminar.

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____
Street: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
eMail: _____ (even if mailing in this form, please include your eMail address)

SATURDAY 14TH OCTOBER:

GOT ANCESTORS?! – LEGAL MATTERS!

Fee before 27 September 2017 = \$39. After 26 September 2017 = \$49.
(includes beverage service throughout the day)

Registration \$_____

LUNCH:

☐ This year you have the choice to bring your own lunch if you wish. \$_____0

OR

☐ Box lunch provided by the Grand Traverse Pie Company. \$11
(includes a sandwich, bag of chips and a cookie.)

Choose from one of the 5 different sandwiches as listed below – please **circle your choice of sandwich**.

Ham and Havarti

Grand Traverse Club

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Mediterranean Veggie

Lunch \$_____

OPTIONAL – JOINING WMGS

☐ Check here if you wish to also join WMGS as a new member for 2018
or renew your existing membership (see below). \$20

\$_____

TOTAL \$_____

WMGS Members who attend the Seminar will receive a \$10 voucher in their registration package. This voucher can be used at the WMGS Sales Table, or can be used toward your 2018 Membership. Membership is \$20 per year for members living in the USA.

Please make cheque payable to **WMGS** and mail to:
Got Ancestors?! Registration
Roger Moffat
3020 76th St SE
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SCHEDULE

SATURDAY 14 TH OCTOBER 2017	
8:30 – 9:00 AM	REGISTRATION
9:00 – 10:15 AM	COPYRIGHT MYTHCONCEPTIONS What we don't know about copyright law can hurt us – right in the pocketbook! Here's a guide to the most common mistakes and misunderstandings about copyright and what we can and can't do with materials created by others in our family research.
BREAK – SALES TABLE	
11:00 AM – 12:30 PM	WHEN WORLDS COLLIDE: RESOLVING CONFLICTS IN GENEALOGICAL RECORDS The Genealogical Proof Standard says to resolve conflicts in data... but like so many things that sound good, it's easier said than done. What exactly are we supposed to do when we encounter conflicting evidence? What are the basic types of evidence conflicts and the methods – and tips and tricks – we can use to resolve them?
LUNCH	
1:45– 3:00 PM	DNA AND THE GOLDEN RULE: THE LAW AND ETHICS OF GENETIC GENEALOGY Whose permission is needed to test a child or an adult unable to consent? Who owns our DNA? What can we disclose about a cousin who has tested? The rules of the road for the ethical challenges facing genealogists interested in using DNA evidence as part of their family history research. Learn how applying the Golden Rule can guide us through many if not most of the situations in which we as genetic genealogists find ourselves.
BREAK –SALES TABLE	
3:30 – 4:45 PM	NO VITALS? NO PROBLEM! – BUILDING A FAMILY THROUGH CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE A Family for Isabella (tracing a woman married before the 1850 census). When there's no birth, marriage or death record, what's a genealogist to do? Learn how to use circumstantial evidence to build a family.

You can stay up to date with the latest conference news at our website <http://GotAncestors.com/> and by subscribing to the RSS feed from the “blog” at <http://gotancestors.com/feed/> or click the link for “Entries (RSS)” at the bottom of any page on the website.

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THE SALVATION ARMY GRAND RAPIDS KROC CENTER



The Salvation Army Grand Rapids Kroc Center is located at 2500 Division Ave South, Grand Rapids, MI 49507.

Entry is from Division Avenue. You can get directions from <http://grkroccenter.org/about-us/directions/>

Parking is FREE!

(Our Speaker, continued from front page)

I'm a member of the National Genealogical Society, the Association of Professional Genealogists, and, among others, the state genealogical societies of New Jersey, North Carolina, Virginia, Texas and Illinois.

I've written for publications including the *National Genealogical Society Quarterly* (see Judy G. Russell, "Don't Stop There! Connecting Josias Baker to His Burke County, North Carolina, Parents," *National Genealogical Society Quarterly*, March 2011, 25-41), the *National Genealogical Society Magazine* (see Judy G. Russell, "Autosomal DNA testing," *National Genealogical Society Magazine*, October-December 2011, 38-43, "Fifty years of credentialing," *National Genealogical Society Magazine*, January-March 2014, 15-19, and "Shootout at the Rhododendron Lodge: Reconstructing Life-Changing Events," *National Genealogical Society Magazine*, January-March 2015, 28-35), and BCG's *OnBoard* newsletter, among others.

MESSAGE FROM WMGS PRESIDENT – MINDY KOOLE

A number of years ago I asked a 90+ year old lady what change during her lifetime made the biggest impression. She said hands down that it was the airplane. Didn't even have to think before answering me. If one flew over the area where she was school was dismissed and everyone ran outside to watch. They were sure that it would fall out of the sky. At her age she still enjoyed watching them fly over her head and was awed at their ability- but had never been on one.

For me it would be the advances of technology and the availability of information. They have progressed at tremendous speeds over the past few years. There is a continuous stream of new gadgets that are supposed to make my life easier and make information more available. While it is not my goal to own one of every kind of new technology, I need to understand the ability and purpose for each of them to realize their potential help for me. I want to know how to keep up with things to some degree because I do want to experience the thrill of finding the info I am looking for and I believe this "new stuff" can help me.

So I am again looking forward to the results of the efforts of the seminar committee who have found an expert who is willing to share some of her knowledge with us. I am saving the date, making my reservation, and looking forward to learning something new. You are cordially invited to do the same so that we can confidently move forward in our research and enjoy the thrill of the find.

Hope to see you there!

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