

Western Michigan Genealogical Society
presents

Got Ancestors?!

“Guydes to Genealogical Research”

6 & 7 November 2009

at the

Prince Conference Center at Calvin College

featuring

“The Genealogy Guys” – George G. Morgan and Drew Smith

An Anniversary Banquet and Awards Ceremony on Friday evening,
followed by a Seminar on Saturday.

Got Ancestors?!

Western Michigan Genealogical Society



Celebrates

55



Years

Reasons to attend Got Ancestors?!

- GREAT Speakers
- GREAT Topics
- GREAT Door Prizes
- Commercial Vendors
- WMGS Sales Table – come and look at the books before you buy
- Network with other genealogists
- ...

Distractions and urgent issues are a part of life in 2009. 1954 was a different time, but certainly not without its own controversial and turbulent events. President Eisenhower signed into law the new social security bill. Race-based segregation in schools was declared unconstitutional. Rosa Parks was arrested in Montgomery, Alabama and the phrase “under God” was added to the Pledge of Allegiance. Important issues and events will always take place in every lifetime.

Let’s not forget what it is we’re all about as genealogists. As we celebrate our society’s 55th year, let’s remember that we’re all about family – our people, their personalities, their lives and stories. The program for this year’s anniversary celebration and full day seminar should lighten our hearts and enlighten our minds to our ancestors’ experiences. Let’s use this time to regenerate our energy not only for the pursuit of our family histories, gain knowledge of new tools and methods, but also have some good old-fashioned fun!

Make your plans now for the Anniversary Banquet with The Genealogy Guys on Friday, November 6th. On Saturday the 7th enjoy a day of interesting and innovative topics presented by Drew Smith and George G Morgan. Participate in a live podcast of The Genealogy Guys. The planning committee has worked to prepare an outstanding value for attendees. We are offering \$10.00 vouchers good towards WMGS Sales Table purchases or 2010 WMGS membership dues to all members who register and attend.

I look forward to your participation and know you won’t be disappointed!

Don Bryant – President WMGS

Register and pay online at <http://GotAncestors.com/>
Questions? – send eMail to Seminar@GotAncestors.com

Got Ancestors?! Registration Form

(use coupon code **Lakeland** when registering online)

If you have Internet access please help us out by using the online registration form at <http://GotAncestors.com/registration/>. Your use of the online form means that we (I) don't have to enter the information myself. You can choose to pay online using 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.

Each person registering for Got Ancestors?! – "Guydes to Genealogical Research" should fill out a separate form. You can use this form to order an extra banquet ticket for a partner who will be accompanying you to the banquet on Friday night, but NOT attending the conference on Saturday.

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Street: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

eMail: _____ (even if mailing in this form, please include your eMail address)

Got Ancestors?! Seminar

Please choose ONE class from each of the 3 sessions listed below. Note that you are not bound to attend that class, but we do want to get an indication of how many people wish to attend each class. (If you're using this form ONLY for banquet tickets, choose None for each session.)

Session 1	1A <input type="checkbox"/>	1B <input type="checkbox"/>	None <input type="checkbox"/>
Session 2	2A <input type="checkbox"/>	2B <input type="checkbox"/>	None <input type="checkbox"/>
Session 3	3A <input type="checkbox"/>	3B <input type="checkbox"/>	None <input type="checkbox"/>

Fee before 16 October 2009 = \$50. After 15 October 2009 = \$60

Note this includes Deli Delight Lunch (the same great lunch we had last year).

Registration \$ _____

Anniversary Banquet

If you wish to attend the 55th Anniversary Banquet and Awards Dinner with keynote speakers "The Genealogy Guys", please indicate your choice of meal(s) here. You can also order a meal for people other than yourself – a partner/guest for example. All meals include water, tea, coffee, and anniversary cake dessert.

- Macadamia Crusted Walleye** - Fresh walleye fillet encrusted with Macadamia nuts and topped with a lime citrus butter accompanied by diced red skin potatoes. \$25 \$ _____
- Michigan Pork Tenderloin** - Apple marinated pork tenderloin slices, served with a salsa made with dried Michigan cherries. Accompanied by three cheese au gratin potatoes. \$26 \$ _____
- Prime Rib of Beef** - Cut of prime rib rubbed with garlic, shallots and herb seasonings, slow roasted and finished with a Merlot enhanced au jus and served with fingerling potatoes \$28 \$ _____
- Portabella Mushroom Ravioli** - Ravioli filled with a unique blend of peppers, onions, and mushrooms and drizzled with light olive oil and lemon sauce. Garnished with arugula and roasted pine nuts that give this dish a nice earthy flavor. \$22 \$ _____

Joining WMGS

Check here if you wish to also join WMGS (see below) \$20 \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____

Seminar attendees who are WMGS Members 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 2010 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
Caledonia, MI 49316-8398

Register and pay online at <http://GotAncestors.com/>
Questions? – send eMail to Seminar@GotAncestors.com

Got Ancestors?! - Schedule

Friday 6 November 2009

6:30 – 10 PM	WMGS' 55 th Anniversary Banquet and Awards Ceremony. Keynote will be delivered by "The Genealogy Guys" who will give a presentation on "The Ups and Downs of Researching a Circus Family" ..
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Saturday 7 November 2009

9:00	Registration.	
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9:30 – 10:30	<p>1A - The Genealogist as CSI Why are genealogical research and crime scene investigation similar? What are the steps in gathering and successfully analyzing evidence? The collection, analysis and comparison of evidence are the key to genealogical problem solving, analogous to the work of a crime scene investigator. This session examines the parallels between criminal forensics and genealogical research. Learn step-by-step methodologies to help you succeed as a genealogical CSI.</p>	<p>1B - The Family History in your Cells: Using DNA for Genealogical Research Afraid to try DNA as a research tool because the science seems intimidating? This overview will explain how DNA relates to genealogy, what kinds of DNA tests are available, and how researchers can share test results with each other.</p>
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BREAK

11:15 – 12:15	<p>2A - Bring 'em Back to Life: Developing an Ancestor Profile In the course of our genealogical research, we often become engrossed in the collection of information snippets, failing to put them into a logical perspective. We lose sight of the fact that the people we're tracing participated in the life of their historical times, led complex lives, and interacted with one another. This seminar presents a methodology and a structured model for taking the details you collect about your ancestor and creating a biographical profile.</p>	<p>2B - Dear Genealogy Diary: Today I Made a Great Discovery Genealogical researchers have long been encouraged to maintain a research log. Learn how to maintain an online research log that can be accessed by you no matter where you are and that can be shared with family and other researchers.</p>
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LUNCH

1:30 – 2:30	<p>3A - Planning a Very Successful Genealogical Research Trip Regardless of whether you're going to the library or heading out on a genealogical vacation, advance preparation is essential. You have to know who you are researching, what information you hope to find, what resources are available, and where to find them. This seminar discusses numerous resources you can use to prepare for the most effective genealogical research trips you'll ever make. We'll examine books, periodicals, maps, Web pages, Internet mailing lists, city governments, libraries and archives, genealogical and historical societies, family associations, church secretaries, sextons and other resources you should use to gather advance information to help develop your research schedule. Learn to maximize your research time the way professionals do it, and return home with a genealogical treasure trove.</p>	<p>3B - Kicking the Tires of Popular Genealogy Software Whether you're deciding on your first genealogy software, or thinking of switching, you'll want to hear the pluses and minuses of each of the most popular packages. What should you be looking for in a genealogy database software product?</p>
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BREAK

3:15 – 4:15	The Genealogy Guys Podcast LIVE. This session will be the recording of a podcast that will be broadcast by The Genealogy Guys. They will have a latest news segment, and then answer questions from seminar attendees.
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The Prince Conference Center - <http://www.calvin.edu/prince/>



The Prince Center at Calvin College is located at 1800 East Beltline SE, Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Entry to the Prince Conference Center is from the northbound side of the East Beltline north of Burton Street. If you are travelling from the north you have to proceed south of Burton Street to make a U-turn to head north.

Parking is FREE.

The Prince Conference Center includes a hotel. If you wish to stay at the conference venue you can make those arrangements yourself. Contact the Center at 1-866-526-7200 and ask for a room for the WMGS Seminar. It's possible that you'll get a better discount if you are an AARP or AAA Member.

There are also motels on nearby 28th Street.

Our Speakers

George G. Morgan is the president of Aha! Seminars, Inc., a Florida-based company working with library cooperatives and consortia providing continuing education to libraries and their employees, and genealogy consulting services. George is an outspoken advocate for libraries and librarians' issues, and is a self-described "rabid genealogist."

He is an internationally recognized genealogy expert who presents at local, state, national, and international genealogical conferences.

George is the prolific author of literally hundreds of articles for magazines, journals, newsletters, in genealogical publications, and at online sites in the U.S., Canada, the U.K, Singapore, and elsewhere. His articles regularly appear in the Plus Edition of Eastman's Online Genealogical Newsletter and at other sites, and he contributed regular columns for the bimonthly *Digital Genealogist* magazine.

He has written eight books, the newest of which is the second edition of *How to Do Everything: Genealogy*, published by McGraw-Hill and critically acclaimed by genealogists, societies, and libraries. He also wrote the first and second editions of *The Official Guide to Ancestry.com*. He has written a chapter in the forthcoming second edition of *Professional Genealogy*, which will be published at the end of 2009.

Drew Smith, MLS, is a librarian at the University of South Florida in Tampa. He regularly makes presentations about genealogy at national, state, and local conferences. Together with George G. Morgan, he has been co-host of the weekly Genealogy Guys Podcast since September 2005. His book *Social Networking for Genealogists* was published by Genealogical Publishing Company in 2009. He contributed regular columns for the bimonthly *Digital Genealogist* magazine.

Smith wrote numerous articles for Ancestry.com's quarterly *Genealogical Computing*, and served as the contributing editor for GC's "Cybrarian" (formerly known as "Infobahn") column. He served as technical editor for both editions of George G. Morgan's book *How to Do Everything: Genealogy*, published by McGraw-Hill.

Smith helped to found the Librarians Serving Genealogists group, and continues to serve as its list administrator. He was re-elected to the board of the Federation of Genealogical Societies (Director, 2005-2007, 2008-2010). He was elected to the board of the Florida Genealogical Society in Tampa (Director, 2005-2006), and was elected its president for 2007 and re-elected for 2008 and 2009. He is a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists.

George and Drew produce "The Genealogy Guys Podcast" each week on the Internet at genealogyguys.com, the longest running, regularly scheduled genealogical podcast in the world, with thousands of subscribers around the world.

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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