



GENEiiSM Family History Writers Conference

Thursday, June 9, 2011

8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

TH-001 Colletta. Assembling and Writing Your Family History.



For genealogists who have been researching for twenty years, as well as family historians who are just getting started, this lecture addresses the joys and challenges of their final product: a written account of their discoveries. Commit your research findings to writing for future generations... before it's too late!



TH-002 Thurston. The Family History Writer's Conundrum: How to Write about Family Skeletons and other Prickly People.

Writing a family history generally implies providing a factual account of someone's life. That's tough when you're writing about difficult people and issues. How do you juggle family considerations, author integrity, and possible legal ramifications and still tell the truth? What do you put in? What do you leave out? Can you "finesse" the truth? This workshop will help you arrive at a solution you can live with.

10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

TH-003 Colletta. Turning Biographical Facts into Real Life Events: How to Build Historical Context.

The biographical facts we discover about our ancestors did not happen in a vacuum. Our ancestors were born, lived, and died under specific physical circumstances at specific times in history. This lecture demonstrates how to turn biographical information into the real-life experiences they were.



TH-004 Barnes. The Many Ways to Organize a Family History Book.



Professional editors demonstrate how to develop a plan for a book that is based on research and materials you have gathered. The seminar will compare and contrast several chronological and topical methods of organizing the book's contents. Learn how to use topics and themes to

11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

TH-005 Colletta. Principles of Good Writing and Good Storytelling.

Real-life, well-documented stories may read as well as best-selling fiction. This lecture provides practical instruction on how to present each ancestor's life as an engaging true story.



TH-006 Fulford. Eight Weeks of Memoir Writing in Two Hours Part 1.

Writing a personal memoir is a compelling combination of fact, voice and structure. This workshop explores the many threads that make up your story. Topics include the importance of detail, segments, tangents, perspective and format. And it's fun! This course is a celebration of the attainable goal of getting it down on the page. Part 1.

2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

TH-007 Colletta. Snares and Pitfalls of Writing Narrative Family History.

To narrate is to tell a story. To narrate the real-life experiences of our ancestors is to

tell their true stories. The undertaking is fraught with challenges and pitfalls. Citing specific examples, this lecture addresses some of the most common errors made in the name of establishing "historical context" and it suggests ways to avoid them. Nine "pitfalls" are illustrated with nine examples representing a broad spectrum of people and places.

TH-008 Fulford. Eight Weeks of Memoir Writing in Two Hours Part 2.

Writing a personal memoir is a compelling combination of fact, voice and structure. This workshop explores the many threads that make up your story. Topics include the importance of detail, segments, tangents, perspective and format. And it's fun! This course is a celebration of the attainable goal of getting it down on the page. Part 2.

3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.



TH-009 Panel. How to Get Your Word Out: Publishing Your Family History.

Now that you've written your family history, you may want to share with family members, or maybe with the world. This expert panel will discuss the pros and cons of several methods of publishing, including traditional publishing (self-publishing and commercial publishing), as well as print on demand.

TH-010 Fulford. Writing Through Grief.

People grieve in a thousand different ways. Writers use words to help work through their own personal losses. By recording feelings, impressions, events and even the most mundane details surrounding a family loss, writers create an intimate and unforgettable manuscript for future generations. D.G. Fulford's draws from her personal experience as author of "Designated Daughter," the Woman's Day blog she wrote during the hospice care and recent passing of her mother, Phyllis Greene.

Special Event Preceding the
42nd Annual Southern California
Genealogy Jamboree sponsored by the
Southern California Genealogical Society
417 Irving Drive, Burbank, CA 91504
818.843.7247
www.scgsgenealogy.com

Luncheon Buffet 12:30-2:00

Lunch time is free time, but you may want to share a tasty luncheon buffet with the other Family History Writers Conference participants. Take time to share your stories, chat informally and stay focused on the topic of writing. Winners of the 2010 Family History Writers Conference will be recognized. *Preregistration and fee required.*