

**Title:** The Value of Online Communities in Genealogy

**Abstract:**

The genealogy industry has been built mainly around databases over the past several years. These databases are essential to the research we do, but we are lacking another ingredient that is absolutely critical, communities. Communities will help us conduct our research together, in a more efficient manner, and most importantly will help facilitate the future growth of the industry.

**Description:**

Genealogy is about connecting to our past and our past connects us to everyone in the world. It is natural to conduct family history in communities, not locked away in an office by ourselves. So why don't stronger communities exist today? We are working hard to change that.

In this talk we will learn why it is important for genealogists to seek out communities and what the benefits are of doing so. We will learn how to sift through everything on the Internet to find the right community for you. In addition, we will also talk about the role of communities in other industries.