

Find Family History: With WorldCat & FamilySearch

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Steve Fox, is the manager of Cataloging and Metadata Services at FamilySearch International, headquartered in Salt Lake City Utah.

FamilySearch.org is a key resource for researching ones family history. FamilySearch offers many free services over the internet to help you successfully discover your ancestral roots.

FamilySearch began in 1894 as the Genealogical Society of Utah. In the 1930s, the society began capturing archival record worldwide on microfilm. Today the microfilm collection contains 2.5M rolls of film and 1M microfiche representing an estimated 3 billion images.

Over the last decade, FamilySearch has migrated microfilm camera capture to digital, and has begun digitizing the GMRV microfilm collection, at the same time scanning their collection of 400,000 books in the Family History Library. This means that this collection of records and other materials is becoming available to anyone anywhere online at www.Familysearch.org for free.

Some of the features of FamilySearch include:

- 4 billion+ names and 1billion+ images from all over the world
- A collaborative family tree with nearly 2M names added each month
- 250,000 digitized Family and local history books and other materials
- 4,800 FamilySearch Centers Worldwide
- 24/7 Free expert phone support
- Online FamilySearch Wiki with over 80,000 articles describing how to use records and sources to research a pedigree
- Volunteer indexing community – over 300,000 volunteer indexers with over 1 trillion names indexed.
- Images are now linked directly to records in the FamilySearch Catalog.

For more information you can contact Steve at foxsj@familysearch.org

Every week, 2,000,000 people use WorldCat...are you one of them? If not, this presentation will help show the user how to tap into this resource.

Troy Mohrman, is a former employee of the LDS Church who currently works as a *Library Technology Consultant* for OCLC, giving presentations on how to use OCLC products including WorldCat to his region which covers the western half of the United States, all of Canada and the Caribbean.

OCLC is a global library cooperative that provides shared technology services, original research and community programs for its membership and the library community at large. We are librarians, technologists, researchers, pioneers, leaders and learners. With thousands of library members in more than 100 countries, we come together as OCLC to make information more accessible and more useful.

WorldCat represents a “collective collection” of the world’s libraries, built through the contributions of librarians, expanded and enhanced through individual, regional and national programs. With more than 2.2 billion library holdings for more than 330 million cataloged library items in thousands of libraries, WorldCat continues to gain millions of records and holdings from international union catalogs and national libraries. These resources can be searched for **free** at www.worldcat.org

WorldCat has a breadth and depth of information that your genealogists won’t find in other databases. It makes WorldCat a unique tool for users to research their heritage, and it complements existing genealogy tools such as FamilySearch, LDS Family History Library, Ancestry.com and other research databases.

Some of the highlights from the session will include:

Show the tools and features to enhance searching for records and using lists within WorldCat. Searching WorldCat for items such as:

- historic newspapers, newsletters from the US and other countries
- historic photographs, including digitized ones
- church histories and records
- state and regional records
- civil war and other military records
- town histories
- general genealogical resources, such as directories, handbooks and magazines
- oral histories
- diaries, journals and family Bibles
- manuscripts from archives
- microfilmed genealogy and local history collections

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