

**History Center of Olmsted County Workshop
April 10, 2021**

Genealogy 101: Establishing the Roots of Your Family Tree

Time	Title	Description	About presenter
10:00-11:00	Session 1: Basic Genealogy Methods and Resources	A good foundation builds a good house. Strong roots let a tree grow strong. So it is with genealogy. We will take a look at the oft forgotten or yet to be learned best practices in genealogy, everything from how to take notes, how to organize what you find, what to do next and where to look for answers and how to learn what the next steps are after that. It all comes down good research methods.	Tom Rice is a Certified Genealogist who does genealogical research, lecturing and writing professionally. He is a past officer of the Minnesota Genealogical Society and the Irish Genealogical Society International. He has been a help desk volunteer at the Minnesota Historical Society for 18+ years.
11:00-12:00	Session 2: Genealogical Research in Foreign Records: Where to start and how to succeed!	So you've figured out where your immigrant ancestor came from in the "Old Country" and now you want to see their actual birth record? Or better, you want to trace your ancestor's family back in time as far as possible. But it's a country you've never been to, speaking a language you have no familiarity with, and you have NO IDEA where to even begin. In this class we will walk through the common experiences when beginning research in a foreign country. The four main topics we will cover are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • learning the best ways to understand your country's genealogical records, • using and communicating with foreign repositories, • getting (free!) help with your research, and • knowing when and where to turn for professional help. 	Bob Johnson is a professional genealogist and attorney and holds a Certified Genealogist® credential. As a professional genealogist he has specialized in Scandinavian, U.S., German, and forensic genealogical research for over forty years. He studied in Sweden and is active in many genealogical societies throughout the U.S. and Scandinavia. He has recently been involved in two publications, <i>Genealogy At A Glance: Swedish Genealogy Research</i> (from Genealogical.com) and <i>Husförhörslängder, Swedish Household Examination Records: Framing the Solutions to Your Swedish Ancestry Puzzles</i> (from Amazon.com).
12:00-1:00	Session 3: The ABCs of DNA: Take a Test, Interpret Results, and Answer Genealogical Questions	Everyone has DNA, but you don't have DNA from all your ancestors. Learn what kind of DNA tests can tell you, how the DNA testing companies compare, and how to get the most out of your DNA results. Envision how DNA, together with traditional documentary research, can help solve family history puzzles.	J. H. ("Jay") Fonkert, CG® researches Norwegian Morstads, Swedish Falks, German Rombkes, English Tidballs, Kentucky Fawkners, and Dutch Fonkerts from his home in Roseville, Minnesota. He is using DNA to identify the birth family of a late 1700s Kentucky pioneer. He has lectured in a dozen states, taught at the Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy, and published more than 80 research and teaching articles, including three in the <i>National Genealogical Society Quarterly</i> . He is co-managing editor <i>Minnesota Genealogist</i> and a past-president of the Minnesota Genealogical Society.