

South Central Minnesota Genealogy Expo  
c/o Daardi Sizemore  
Archives and Special Collections Librarian  
Minnesota State University, Mankato  
Memorial Library  
P.O. Box 8419  
Mankato, MN 56002-8419

# South Central Minnesota Genealogy Expo

**October 24, 2009**

**Centennial Student Union  
Ballroom  
Minnesota State  
University, Mankato**

# Workshop Schedule

## Expo Registration

Exhibit Hall			
Exhibit Hall Open			
Welcome and Opening Session "Genealogical Detours" with J.H. Fonkert, CG			
8:30-3:00			
9:00-10:15	Basic Family Research for Beginners	Rural Roots: Researching Family Farmers	Recording Family Stories
10:30-11:30			Organizing Family Records Roundtable
11:30-1:00	Lunch and Special Topic Table Talks		
1:00-2:00	Cemetery Research	United States & Canadian Government Information for Family Research	Online Minnesota Resources
2:15-3:15	Genealogy on the Internet	Census Sleuthing: Using the Census to Decode your Family	Preserving Paper and Photographs
3:30-4:30			Breaking Down Brick Walls Roundtable
			Publishing your Family History Roundtable
			MSU Library Tour

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Time:	1st Choice	2nd Choice
9:00-10:15	Opening Session	
10:30-11:30	_____	_____
1:00-2:00	_____	_____
2:15-3:15	_____	_____
3:30-4:30	_____	_____

Pre-Registration (Postmarked by October 16)  \$20

Registration (Postmarked after October 16 or on-site)  \$25

Box Lunch (Only available with pre-registration)  \$10

Please select type of wrap/salad/sandwich:  
 Turkey wrap  Chicken Caesar Salad Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Roast Beef  Vegetarian

Please make checks payable to: MSU

Please return this form to:

Genealogy Expo, University Archives, MSU,  
 P.O. Box 8419 Mankato, MN 56002-8419

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**Opening Session****9:00-10:15**

**Genealogical Detours: Solving Problems with Indirect Evidence**—We often can't find evidence directly stating an answer to our research problems. Three Midwestern case studies will show you how to weave together indirect evidence to draw a convincing conclusion about your ancestors' life.

**J. H. Fonkert** is a Certified Genealogist specializing in Midwest and Dutch genealogy. He has studied advanced genealogy research methods at the Institute for Genealogical and Historical Research at Samford University and the Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy, and has completed the National Genealogical Society's home study course. He lectures on a variety of genealogical topics. He writes a genealogy education column for *The Septs*, the journal of the Irish Genealogical Society International, and has published in the *National Genealogical Society Quarterly* and *Minnesota Genealogist and Family Chronicle*. He is President of the Minnesota Genealogical Society, and is a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists, the International Society of Family History Writers and Editors, the National Genealogical Society, and the Genealogical Speakers Guild. He is senior health workforce analyst at the Minnesota Department of Health.

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**Basic Family Research for Beginners****10:30-11:30**

Learning the "basics" of genealogy research can save many hours in the quest for your ancestors. This session is targeted at the beginning genealogist.  
*Instructor: Leonnie Osborne, Family History Consultant, LDS Church*

**Breaking Down Brick Walls Roundtable****1:00-2:00**

No family tree is without a few brick walls. This group discussion will give attendees a chance to share "walls" and suggestions on how to overcome them.  
*Moderator: Beth Mullinax, Irish Genealogical Society*

**Cemetery Research****1:00-2:00**

A beginners guide to cemetery records.  
*Instructor: Shelley Harrison, Blue Earth County Historical Society*

**Census Sleuthing: Using the Census to Decode your Family****2:15-3:15**

The Census is the genealogist's best friend because it gives a snapshot of your family in time. This lecture shows how to use all the information in the census as a springboard for other sources.  
*Instructor: J.H. Fonkert, CG, President, Minnesota Genealogical Society*

**Genealogy on the Internet****2:15-3:15**

Discusses free genealogy internet sites that are useful for most researchers. Issues unique to online genealogy research will also be covered.  
*Instructor: Amy Saulnier*

**MSU Library Tour****3:30-4:30**

Get a tour of the MSU library with a special emphasis on genealogical and Minnesota resources.  
*Instructor: Minnesota State University, Mankato Library Staff*

**Online Minnesota Resources****1:00-2:00**

Learn about local and state genealogical resources that are available online.  
*Instructor: Daardi Sizemore, Minnesota State University, Mankato Library*

**Organizing Family Records Roundtable****10:30-11:30**

Group discussion of ideas for organizing paper documents, electronic files, etc. that genealogy researchers accumulate.  
*Moderator: Amy Saulnier*

**Preserving Paper and Photographs****2:15-3:15**

Learn how to preserve your family documents and photographs.  
*Instructor: Jessica Potter, Blue Earth County Historical Society*

**Publishing your Family History Roundtable****2:15-3:15**

From blogs to books, a group discussion of ideas for publishing your family history.  
*Moderator: Jeff Jenson, Gustavus Adolphus College Archives*

**Recording Family Stories****10:30-11:30**

Learn the basics of capturing and presenting family stories with digital audio equipment. Topics discussed will range from interviewing techniques to an introduction to the recording equipment available at the Blue Earth County Historical Society.  
*Instructor: Dave Engen, Minnesota State University, Mankato*

**Rural Roots: Researching Family Farmers****10:30-11:30**

Going beyond the census to research Farmers, Land tenants, and any others who worked the land.  
*Instructor: Shelley Harrison, Blue Earth County Historical Society*

**Special Topics Table Talks****Lunch Time/11:30-1:00**

This new feature of the Expo will occur during the lunch break. This is your chance to meet with others with similar interests and learn from each other. Tables will have themes and experts to focus your time. Current topics include: Swedish Research, Irish Research, and Dutch/English Research. More topics will be added. If you would like to be an expert please contact us.

**United States & Canadian Government Information for Family Research****1:00-2:00**

Learn about US and Canadian government information for your family research!  
*Instructor: Evan Rusch, Minnesota State University, Mankato Library*

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**Cost**      Pre-Registration      \$20  
(Must be postmarked by October 16)  
Registration      \$25  
(Postmarked after October 16 or on-site)

**Class size is limited so pre-registration is recommended!**

**Lunch:**      Box lunches will be available for \$10.  
  
The lunch choices include: Turkey & cheddar wrap, Grilled vegetable or Roast beef baguette, or a Chicken Caesar salad. Each meal includes chips (roll for Caesar salad), dessert, and canned soda. Additional details about the lunches can be found on the Expo website.  
**Lunch is only available with pre-registration.**

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**Directions:** Travel on Hwy. 169 to Mankato. Take the Riverfront Drive Exit. Turn left (north) onto Riverfront Drive and continue to Stoltzman Road. Turn right (east) on Stoltzman Road and continue until you get to Stadium Road. Turn left onto Stadium Road and continue up the hill to Ellis Ave. Turn left on Ellis Ave.

Additional directions and maps are available online at <http://www.mnsu.edu/maps/>

**Parking:** The closest lots to the Centennial Student Union are the Visitor Paylot (free on Saturdays) on Ellis Avenue, 4a on South Road and 11 and 11a on West Road.

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**You are invited to attend the 9th Annual  
South Central Minnesota Genealogy Expo!**

The Expo includes sessions on a variety of genealogy related topics as well as a room where local organizations will share information about their resources and services.

**DATE:**      Saturday, October 24, 2009

**LOCATION:** Centennial Student Union, 2nd Floor Ballroom  
Minnesota State University, Mankato

**TIME:**      9:00 am—4:30 pm  
Registration begins at 8:30 am  
Exhibit Hall opens at 8:30 am  
Sessions begin at 9:00 am

**EXPO WEBSITE:**  
<http://lib.mnsu.edu/archives/genie/expo.html>

**For additional information please contact:**

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