

BARRY J. EWELL—CNYGS 50th ANNIVERSARY FEATURE SPEAKER



Barry J. Ewell is the founder of MyGenShare.com, an online knowledgebase website for individuals interested in learning, sharing, contemplating, and discovering family history. Resources include over one-million individual articles, tutorials, maps, videos, podcasts, slideshows, images and an extensive link directory.

Throughout his professional career as executive officer and senior manager of advertising and public relations strategy for technology companies, he has worked for companies like IBM, 3M, and Rational Software. He has a BA in Communications from BYU.

Since first being introduced to family history in 1998, he has extensively researched his family roots in the United States, United Kingdom, Scandinavia, Germany, and Russia. His focus has been about preserving the record of his family through oral, written and documented history, and researching lines.

Ewell is an advocate for “Sharing Information to Join Generations.” With extensive experience in Internet and field family history research, digital and software resources, Barry is a prolific writer and researcher and mentor of genealogists. He has authored over 1,000 articles, eBooks, video and podcasts on family history. He has presented and shared his knowledge and experience at local, regional, and national conferences including, NGS, New England Regional Genealogy Conference, BYU Education Week, BYU Conference on Family History and Genealogy, Family History Expo Series, and Rootstock.

“Ah Ha! I’m a Genealogist and Lovin’ It” is the title of Ewell’s presentation at the Friday evening banquet. *In every genealogist’s life, there are those moments and experiences that change our course, give us the inspiration to solve the brick wall, or even cause us to laugh out loud. Barry will share his ten “ah ha” moments as a genealogist that will give you cause to say, “I’m a genealogist and lovin’ it”.*

His four Saturday workshops are **“Top 20 Lessons Genealogists Need to Know”**. These are separated into 4 or 5 lessons at each workshop.

Workshop I, Lessons 1-5: *Verify, Document, Multiple Sources, Persistence, and Talking to Family.*

Workshop II, Lessons 6-10: *Sharing Genealogy, Organization, Learning of Ancestors, Keeping Focused, and Finding the Unexpected.*

Workshop III, Lessons 11-15: *Questions, Photographs, Message Boards, Spelling Surnames, and Field Research.*

Workshop IV, Lessons 16-20: *Reading Old Script, Backup Your Data, Software and Web, Census, and The Genealogy Process.*

Suzanne Etherington – Workshop Presenter



Suzanne Etherington has been the NYS Archives Government Records Regional Advisory Officer for the ten county area designated as Region 6 since 1996. Prior to that appointment, she was an archival and records management consultant whose clients included the National Park Service, a range of government agencies, private corporations, and historical organizations. Before that she was Director of Library and Archives for the Onondaga Historical Association in Syracuse. Earlier archival experience includes Preservation Coordinator for the Syracuse University Libraries and Senior Assistant Archivist at Cornell University's New York Historical Resources Center.

Etherington lives in Cortland where she teaches NYS and Public History courses at SUNY Cortland. She holds a doctorate in history from Syracuse University, where she also taught history and archives/records management courses as an adjunct instructor. She also has a Master's degree in history from the University of Rochester. Etherington has presented workshops and papers at state and national conferences on archives and records management and historical topics. Publications include the *Guide to Women's Papers At The Seneca Falls Historical Society*, 'American Immigration and the Ethnic Resorts of the Catskills', in *The Best of Both Worlds: The Ethnic Resorts of the Catskills*, and *Catskills Ethnic Resorts: A Guide to Records*. She has served on the boards of the Central New York chapter of ARMA, and the Upstate Historical Alliance.

Workshop title: Researching Rural Communities: local government records and other Sources.

There are a number of records filed with or kept by local governments that can be useful sources of information for researchers. None of these records were created with the researcher in mind, so it takes a bit of digging to find them! This presentation will give some examples of such records and how to use them.

Edward L. Galvin—Workshop Presenter

Edward L. Galvin has been Director of Archives and Records Management at Syracuse University for over 15 years where he is responsible for the University Archives and for Records Management including the operation of the university's inactive records storage facility. He also directs the University's Pan Am Flight 103 Archives which is dedicated to the 270 victims of the 1988 terrorist bombing over Lockerbie, Scotland.

It was a love of genealogy that pushed him into history and archives. He is a former certified genealogist and early in his career worked at the New England Historic Genealogical Society. He has an extensive web site on his genealogical work regarding families of Isle Madame off Cape Breton, Nova Scotia, and has also been working on a family with Central New York connections. His genealogy site is:
<http://egalvin.mysite.syr.edu/gen/>

Prior to joining SU he spent seven years as Records and Information Manager for The Aerospace Corporation in California, and three years as Chief of the Local Government Records Bureau at the New York State Archives and Records Administration in Albany, NY. Before moving to New York he held the position of Corporate Archivist for the MITRE Corporation in Bedford, Mass.

Galvin hold both undergraduate and graduate degrees from Northeastern University. He is a Fellow of the Society of American Archivists, and a charter member of the Academy of Certified Archivists.

Workshop title: “Often Overlooked: Genealogical Records in Colleges and Universities.”

Schools, colleges and universities might not always be the first place a genealogist would think to look for information on an ancestor. However, a college archives could hold a wealth of information, not only on alumni, but also on faculty and staff as well as honorary degree recipients and visiting lecturers. Galvin, will discuss types of records often found in college archives, including yearbooks, newspaper clippings, photographs, and athletic programs that are of potential interest to family historians.



Holly Sammons—Workshop Presenter



Holly Sammons has worked in the Local History and Genealogy Department at the Onondaga County Public Library for 6 years, the last two as head of the department. She has been a reference librarian for over 12 years. She lectures frequently on genealogy topics.

Sammons has been working on her own family genealogy for almost eleven years.

She has a Master's degree in library science from Syracuse University and is currently serving on the board of directors of the New York Genealogical Society.

Workshop title: *Onondaga County Public Library: "One of the Best Kept Genealogical Secrets"*.

Sammons will discuss the many resources OCPL holds, making it one of the finest genealogy libraries in the country. Its collection is over 120 years old and full of many gems. OCPL has many unique materials related to historic and genealogical research in Onondaga County, New York State, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and the New England states. Most recently it became an Ancestry Affiliate Library.

Roger B. Williams—Workshop Presenter



Williams retired in 2009 after 25 with the New York State Attorney General's Syracuse Office. Prior to that appointment, he was an attorney in private practice, as well as in a corporate setting. His primary focus has been civil litigation defense and the management of all phases of litigated cases in a wide variety of areas.

He developed a fascination with office automation – computers and applications and gadgets which helped his work.

Williams has served as a member of the CNYGS Board of Directors and helped develop their first website, as well as the County Indexing Project.

His programs to the Society's monthly meetings are popular and on a variety of topics. They often link his legal knowledge with his interests in automation and computers and family history.

Workshop title: “Gadgets for the Traveling Genealogist”

When considering a research-trip to explore family history, there are many different types of resources you will want to have with you, and a number which may only serve to slow you down – how to decide what will help is the focus of this session.

How can technology help you whittle down the weight of your pack, yet still provide you with the information you need at your fingertips to decide if a data-source citation has already been explored, or is providing fruitful information? We always want ALL of our information at hand, but how much to print and carry with us requires a daunting selection process, and then you have to be able to find the obscure reference meeting your present inquiry. Roger brings many years of family-history research and office automation interests to bear on sorting out the form and contents of your backpack or carry-all, to simplify the tools and make your research fun and efficient.