

Family History Consultant

Training Summary and Resources

Presented by Carol Nyman
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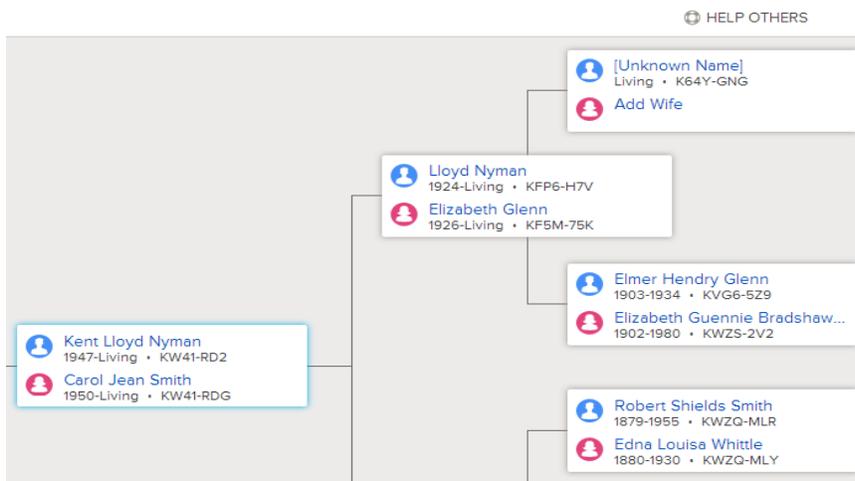
Family history consultants are skilled teachers who work and communicate well with others. Consultants need not be experts in family history research, but they should feel comfortable using the resources found in FamilySearch.org, and be able to help others use these resources. These resources listed in FamilySearch.org are photos and stories, online historical records, FamilySearch indexing program and Family Tree.

There are great blessings received when you become involved in Temple and Family History work.

President Howard W. Hunter, in his talk- [A temple motivated people](#), said: “There are some members who engage in temple work but fail to do family history research on their own family lines. Although they perform a divine service in assisting others, they lose a blessing by not seeking their own kindred dead as divinely directed by latter-day prophets. I have learned that those who engage in family history research and then perform the temple ordinance work for those whose names they have found will know the additional joy of receiving both halves of the blessing”.

As Family History Consultants, it is our obligation to help members get started.

- A. There are five steps for helping members get started with their family history.
 1. Encourage members to talk to their family and collect stories about their ancestors. Nurture their spiritual feelings, and have them seek inspiration.
 2. Help them have a positive experience. Be a friend and listen to what they have to say.
 3. Remember you are working with real people, not just lessons. Adapt to their needs.
 4. Help them act in faith. Having them discover things for themselves.
 5. Help them progress. Follow up with their work, be patient with them and focus on the positive.
- B. Teach them how to enter the information onto www.FamilySearch.org. If they need help, you can enter the information for them using the helper function. (This can be found on the next page).
- C. Encourage members to attend the temple on behalf of the ancestors they have found.
- D. More information, training, and updates: lds.org/familyhistorycallings



FamilySearchFamilyTree. -----Helping others. Gather the member's first and last name, birth date, and helper number. Sign in to use familysearch.org with your own username and password. Click family tree. Click on help others. Enter the above information of the person. When you are finished helping, click stop helping others. When system asks if you are sure, click Stop.

Family History Consultant -----Resources.

- A. The training portal for consultants is—lds.org/familyhistorycallings
 1. Calling-related videos.
 2. *To Turn the Hearts* guide and video.
 3. Interactive training lessons.
 4. Temple and family history course materials.
- B. FamilySearch: familysearch.org
 1. Family Tree
 2. Records
 3. Temple name submissions
 4. Indexing.
- C. Help Center: familysearch.org/ask
 1. FamilySearch video tutorials and help articles.
 2. Research assistance
 3. Getting started video tutorials.
 4. Online courses.
- D. Dedicated Consultant Support Phone Line.
 - # 1-866-406-1830 (option #5).

Working with Ward Leaders.

Below is a suggestion of how consultants and word leaders can work together.

- Ward Council discusses needs of members and decides which families to focus on.
- High Priest Group Leader coordinates the work of the Family History Consultants.
- Family History consultants help members find, prepare, and perform temple ordinances for their ancestors.
- Family History Consultants report to High Priest Group Leader.
- High Priest Group Leader reports back to Ward Council.

There are seven actions shown to increase member submitted names for temple ordnance.

In the fall 2012 study of bishops from 360 wards in The United States, seven actions were identified, that, if performed at a high level, could more than double the percentage of adults submitting names to the temple. Theses seven actions were:

1. Ward leaders made the *Leaders Guide to Temple and Family: To Turn The Hearts* part of their ward plan.
2. Youth were called as family history consultants.
3. Family history consultants were assigned to help new converts prepare the names of their ancestors to take to the temple.
4. Family history classes were held at least every three months within the ward.
5. Ward leaders reported at least monthly on family history activities in priesthood executive committee (PEC).
6. A process was actively implemented for performing ordinances submitted by ward members.
7. Wards had at least three active ward family history consultants.

On average, wards doing at least five of the seven significant actions at a high-level more than doubled the submitting participation of wards doing none of the seven actions at a high level.

Suggestions for Youth involvement.

- Start with the youth. The adults will eventually become involved when they see their children getting involved.
- In stake and ward meetings, ask youth to share their experiences of researching an ancestor and doing the temple work.
- Call youth to serve as family history consultants.
- Tie temple and family history to youth conferences and treks.
- Tie temple and family history to YW Recognition and YM Duty to God activities.

President Henry B. Eyring counseled: Rise to the Calling of a family history consultant. Remember-----

You are called of God!

Give your whole heart to this calling.

Thousands may call you blessed.

You do not work alone.