

IDAHO FALLS FAMILYSEARCH CENTER

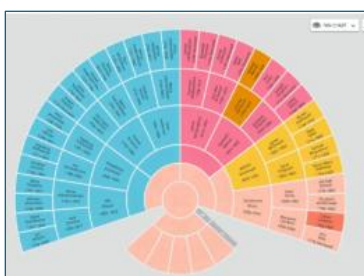
October 2026

This newsletter is not an official FamilySearch or Church-sponsored product.

OPEN HOUSE IN OCTOBER FOR FAMILY HISTORY MONTH

A month-long open house is being held at the Idaho Falls FamilySearch Center in celebration of National Family History Month in October. The open house runs from Thursday, October 1, to Saturday, October 31, at the center located at 750 West Elva Street in Idaho Falls.

"Come visit the Idaho Falls FamilySearch Center and experience the joy of discovering, gathering and connecting your family during family history month," said Gregg and Anna Manwaring, coordinators of the center. "Family history is widely considered the second most popular hobby in the world, just behind gardening. Doing family history adds greater purpose to your life."



Free color fan charts are available at the FamilySearch center.

- Guided tours will be offered to acquaint people with the center, including computers and free family history software programs, as well as equipment to preserve and digitize family records and photographs.
- Special classes will be held during the month to celebrate America's 250th birthday in 2026 (see list of classes in separate story to the right).
- This year's exhibit entitled "America 250 Our American Heritage" is still available to see and includes many stories and photos of descendants of area residents who came to America.
- Volunteers will be on hand during the month to show people how to use equipment to preserve photos, slides, home movies and videos, books and journals.
- Volunteers will help people learn how to use FamilySearch and other software programs to search for their ancestors.
- Free color fan charts that show up to seven generations will be offered using the FamilySearch program.
- People can check to see if there are photos of their family that were taken by Perk's Photo or Geo. M. Scott & Sons. An index of the photo negatives by these Idaho Falls photographers is available on a computer at the center.
- A fun activity called the "FDR's Excellent Adventure" will be set up for people ages 11 and older. The activity, which involves the life of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, takes about 30 minutes to complete and helps people understand how U.S. Census records can help trace your family roots.

AMERICA 250 CLASSES DURING OCTOBER

The Idaho Falls FamilySearch Center will present several classes during October to celebrate America's 250th birthday.

- Monday, October 5, at 1:30 p.m.: "George Washington, a Patriot" by Kim Jardine-Dickerson
- Tuesday, October 6, at 1:30 p.m.: "Finding Your Patriot Ancestors" by Mike Gardner
- Wednesday, October 7, at 10 a.m.: "How to Find Your Patriot Ancestors (Part 1)" by Ken Knoch
- Monday, October 12, at 1:30 p.m.: "Following the Paper Trail to a Revolutionary War Patriot" by Jana Vosika
- Wednesday, October 14, at 10 a.m.: "How to Find Your Patriot Ancestors (Part 2)" by Ken Knoch
- Monday, October 26, at 10 a.m.: "Finding Your Loyalist Ancestor" by Kim Jardine-Dickerson
- Wednesday, October 28, at 10 a.m.: "Women in the American Revolution" by Stephanie McRae
- Thursday, October 29, at 1:30 p.m.: "Betsy Ross" by Kim Jardine-Dickerson
- Friday, October 30, at 1:30 p.m.: "Boston Tea Party" by Pat Gardner (limited seating, please sign up online on the class schedule)

For a list of all the classes at the center, [click here](#).

The classes are free and available in person or on Zoom.

October is officially Family History Month. This designation goes back more than 20 years, just two and a half weeks after the traumatic events of 9/11. The bill passed by the United States Senate includes a long list of reasons why October should be Family History Month, including this statement: "Whereas individuals learn about their ancestors who worked so hard and sacrificed so much, their commitment to honor their ancestors' memory by doing good is increased; Whereas interest in our personal family history transcends all cultural and religious affiliations."

NEW SATURDAY HOURS

The Idaho Falls FamilySearch Center has been open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturdays. Starting October 17 new Saturday hours will be 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The center is open Mondays and Fridays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.

ROOTSTECH: WATCH VIDEOS, 2027 REGISTRATION BEGINS

Did you know that you can now register for RootsTech 2027? It will be held March 4-6, 2027. You can attend in person or online. Online attendance is free! If you want to attend in person, the early bird cost is \$99 per person for all three days. Go to either familysearch.org or rootstech.org to register.

However, you don't have to wait until March to watch sessions from past RootsTech conferences. They are available online. Go to rootstech.org and use the menu at the top right to look for mini events or to watch videos. You can browse the library or search for a video. Videos are labeled beginner, intermediate and advanced. There is a description and a time stamp so you know how long a video is.

You can even create a personal playlist. Simply search for the video you want to see. Then click the + sign to add it to your playlist. If you add videos to your playlist, you can watch them whenever you have time. You can even pause the video to take notes.

ARE YOU STARTING TO THINK ABOUT CHRISTMAS?

Let's face it—finding the perfect gift for a genealogist or family historian can be tricky, especially if you aren't much into genealogy and family trees yourself. What sort of gift would someone enjoy who is into family history? While your options may seem limited, there are actually many different interests in family history and numerous genealogy gift ideas to choose from.



A photograph of a family member is a meaningful gift.

Perhaps you're approaching this conundrum from the opposite direction. Maybe *you're* the genealogy lover in the family, and you're looking for a simple genealogy gift for the other members of your family. It can be difficult to share your passion for family history with a gift without overwhelming the receiver. You need something simple and, most importantly, something fun.

Whichever category you fall in, here are 12 genealogy and family tree gift ideas. These gift ideas are perfect for genealogy lovers and for everyone else who happens to sit around the dinner table throughout the year. These ideas are found on the FamilySearch website ([click here](#)) or scan this QR code.



TECH NOTES

By Byron Ball, Senior Service Missionary

We invite you to check out the new upgrades when uploading memories like photos and videos in FamilySearch. You will see these changes when uploading memories in the Gallery, as well as when uploading them through the Memories tab on a Person's Page in the Family Tree.

Now, when you upload multiple memories (up to 10), individual thumbnail images will appear along with arrow keys. You will then be able to add details for each memory, including uploaded audios. Details are so important to add!

Additionally, when you select your public/private settings, you now have the choice to select "Individual Visibility" for each memory.

Please note that sharing private memories with a family group is not yet an individual process. If you have uploaded several "private" memories and need to share them with different family groups, it is best to complete that process in the Memory Viewer after uploading.

We hope the upgrades to the uploader tool will help you add the necessary details when uploading multiple memories. If you need help understanding this process, feel free to reach out to the FamilySearch Center. We will be glad to show you the shortcut for this new task.

Upcoming Center Closures

Saturday, October 3 – General Conference

CONTACT THE CENTER

750 West Elva Street, Idaho Falls
Phone: 208-524-5291

Open Monday, Friday and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Tuesday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Starting October 17, Saturday hours will be 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

To sign up for free newsletter, go to the top of the home page of the Idaho Falls FamilySearch Center website or [click here](#).



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