



The Genealogical Society  
of Bergen County, NJ

A NON-PROFIT CORPORATION

# 2017 Genealogy Programs

MEETINGS | PROGRAMS | EVENTS

[www.njgsbc.org](http://www.njgsbc.org)

GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY  
OF BERGEN COUNTY, NJ (GSBC)  
P.O. Box 432, Midland Park, NJ 07432

[contact@njgsbc.org](mailto:contact@njgsbc.org)  
[www.njgsbc.org](http://www.njgsbc.org)  
[www.facebook.com/GenSocBergenCo](https://www.facebook.com/GenSocBergenCo)

BOLGER HERITAGE CENTER  
AT THE RIDGEWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY (RPL)  
125 N. Maple Ave., Ridgewood, NJ 07450  
201.670.5600 x135  
[www.ridgewoodlibrary.org](http://www.ridgewoodlibrary.org)

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Unless otherwise noted, GSBC General Meetings are held at 7pm on the fourth Monday of the month in the Auditorium of the Ridgewood Public Library (RPL).

All are welcome; membership is encouraged. Check the GSBC Website, [www.njgsbc.org](http://www.njgsbc.org), and monthly e-news for updates, classes, roundtables, and additional events as well as more details about talks and speaker bios.

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#### GSBC ANNUAL SEMINAR

An exciting and informative all-day seminar on a topic important to GSBC Members and genealogical researchers. (*Date, topic, and location to be announced.*)

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#### JANUARY

**MONDAY, 23 MONDAY, 7 PM**  
**RIDGEWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY AUDITORIUM**  
*GSBC General Meeting*

Eastern European Genealogy:  
Discovering Online Resources

**Michelle Tucker Chubenko**—This presentation will cover easy-to-access online resources for conducting research in Poland, Slovakia, Ukraine, Hungary, and Croatia—no passport required!

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#### FEBRUARY

**MONDAY, 27 FEBRUARY, 7 PM**  
**RIDGEWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY AUDITORIUM**  
*GSBC General Meeting*

*The Stranger in My Genes*

Join GSBC as we welcome CNBC host, **Bill Griffeth**, who will speak about his latest book *The Stranger in My Genes*. In the summer of 2012, Griffeth, longtime genealogy buff, took a DNA test that had an unexpected outcome: “If the results were correct, it meant that the family I had spent years documenting was not my own.” In this book, Bill undertakes a quest to solve the mystery of his origins—a quest which will shake his sense of identity. As he takes us on his journey, we learn about choices made by his ancestors, parents, and others—and we see Bill measure and weigh his own difficult choices as he confronts the past.”

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#### MARCH

**SATURDAY, 11 MARCH, 9:30 AM, RPL**  
*GSBC Board Meeting*

**MONDAY, 27 MARCH, 7 PM**  
**RIDGEWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY AUDITORIUM**  
*GSBC General Meeting*

New York Research

**Barbara Ellman**—So many of our immigrant ancestors began their American journey by living in New York City. Many families started on the Lower East Side and upgraded to the Bronx and Brooklyn. Their children may have moved further afield to Queens, Westchester, Long Island, and New Jersey. In this talk Ellman will identify resources such as vital records, naturalization, probate, property, and newspapers. Many will be available online but we'll note which can only be found on-site at various archives and repositories.

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#### APRIL

**MONDAY, 24 APRIL, 7 PM**  
**RIDGEWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY AUDITORIUM**  
*GSBC General Meeting*

Evidence Analysis:  
Which is the Right Record?

**Rhoda Miller, CG**—In the presence of conflicting facts, the following three criteria are used to evaluate each piece of evidence. Careful analysis reveals there are nuances and circumstances of these terms. An understanding of these terms leads to effective decision-making.

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#### MAY

**MONDAY, 22 MAY, 7 PM**  
**RIDGEWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY AUDITORIUM**  
Genealogical Software

**Rick Fogarty**—For genealogists of all skill levels, choosing the right software can be a difficult task. The rise of popularity in genealogy has given way to the development of a variety of platforms that offer a large number of functions for research projects. Whether simply trying to organize your family database or starting a family history publishing project, the right software can make these tasks easier and efficient. This lecture will look at the history of family history software to help demonstrate why the products have become so numerous. Topics included will help with understanding cloud-based options, tree syncing, and open-source products.

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## JUNE

**SATURDAY, 10 JUNE, 9:30 AM, RPL**

GSBC Board Meeting

**SATURDAY, 24 JUNE, 11 AM–3 PM**

### GSBC Annual Picnic

Meet us under the picnic pavilion by the lake in Waldwick Borough Park for a day of food, fun, and conversation.

Bring a dish to share or just yourself! Check the GSBC website for more details.

**MONDAY, 26 JUNE, 7 PM**

**RIDGEWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY AUDITORIUM**

*GSBC General Meeting*

### Timelines the Family Life Line

**Sharon B. Hodges**—We are told to place our ancestors in their historical, social, and economic background. Creating a timeline of an ancestor's life, makes it is easy to see facts, relationships, what information is missing and maybe even where you should look next.

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## JULY

**MONDAY, 24 JULY, 7 PM**

**RIDGEWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY AUDITORIUM**

*Summer Meeting*

### Show-and-Tell Program, “It’s Your Turn!”

GSBC Members are invited to bring something related to their own family history or research to share with the group. Perhaps you’ve inherited your grandmother’s candlesticks. Or possibly, you have a portrait of an ancestor or a snapshot taken long ago at a family gathering. You may have found documents relating to your family’s past in Europe centuries ago. Even if you don’t possess any keepsakes from your ancestors, you may be able to show us a printout of their Ellis Island passenger manifest or a picture of the village in which they lived. Please bring your item to show to the group (of course, don’t bring anything that’s extremely valuable or fragile), and tell us a little bit about the person it belonged to or how you received or discovered it. Please bring just one item and limit your talk to one minute!

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See [www.njgsbc.org](http://www.njgsbc.org) for information on the above as well as other upcoming events, free consultations, and classes!

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## AUGUST

**MONDAY, 28 AUGUST, 7 PM**

**RIDGEWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY AUDITORIUM**

### Genealogy Workshop Roundtable

Start getting your questions ready! Researchers can bring questions, brick walls, and stories to share in small discussion groups. It's always a lively event with lots of experts on hand to help. Bring your brick-wall problems and we'll help chip away at them!

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## SEPTEMBER

**SATURDAY, 16 SEPTEMBER, 9:30 AM, RPL**

GSBC Board Meeting

**MONDAY, 25 SEPTEMBER, 7 PM**

**RIDGEWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY AUDITORIUM**

*GSBC General Meeting*

### German Genealogy Research on the Internet

**Dr. Richard Haberstroh, AG, GC**—(*Description to come.*)

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## OCTOBER

**SATURDAY, 28 OCTOBER, 4:30–11 PM**

**RIDGEWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY**

### Ridgewood Public Library Lock-In

Genealogists take over the Ridgewood Public Library (RPL) after-hours for a light supper, research, workshops, and sharing. This event is a great way to improve your skills, meet new genealogy friends, or just have a whole evening to research in the Library. Registration and fee required.

**MONDAY, 23 OCTOBER, 7 PM**

**RIDGEWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY AUDITORIUM**

*GSBC General Meeting*

### New Jersey Vital Records, Adoption, and Divorce

**Melissa A. Johnson, CG**—This lecture covers the various types of New Jersey vital records and the information they provide during different time periods; vital record additions and corrections; delayed vital registration; New Jersey adoption records and recent adoption legislation; and New Jersey divorce records. In addition to the types of records that exist, the discussion will focus on availability and restrictions, present day organization of the records, online and on-site indexes and records,

alternatives for restricted or non-existent records, out-of-state resources, and methods for using vital records, adoption records, and divorce records to solve problems.

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## NOVEMBER

November is GSBC Membership renewal month—please renew your membership today. Thank you!

**MONDAY, 4 NOVEMBER, RPL**

*GSBC Volunteer Appreciation Brunch (Invitation only)*

**MONDAY, 27 NOVEMBER, 7 PM**

**RIDGEWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY AUDITORIUM**

*GSBC General Meeting and Annual Meeting*

*Election and installation of GSBC officers and Trustees.*

*(Talk topic to be announced.)*

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## DECEMBER

*No GSBC General Meeting, Happy Holidays!*

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### GSBC-RPL Tech Classes

Hone your research skills or dive into a new topic!

Advance registration is required for classes. (Class Fees: GSBC Members and Ridgewood residents, \$5; other attendees, \$10). Visit [www.njgsbc.org](http://www.njgsbc.org) for descriptions and sign-up, or contact Sarah Kiefer, Local History Librarian at the Ridgewood Public Library, at 201-670-5600 x135 or [skiefer@ridgewoodlibrary.org](mailto:skiefer@ridgewoodlibrary.org)

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### Introduction to Genealogy @BCC

GSBC holds a course at the Institute for Learning in Retirement (IRL) at Bergen Community College in the Fall and/or Spring semester(s). (Please note that IRL is for registrants 55 and older.) Contact the college at 201-447-7156 or [ilr@bergen.edu](mailto:ilr@bergen.edu) for more information.

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### GSBC Speakers' Bureau

Did you know that the GSBC has expert speakers available to talk at your events on a variety of research and genealogical topics? Email [contact@njgsbc.org](mailto:contact@njgsbc.org) for more information on speakers and topics.

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### GSBC Genealogy Consultants

The GSBC offers complimentary on-site assistance and a GSBC Membership entitles you to four free lookups.

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See [www.njgsbc.org](http://www.njgsbc.org) for details.